

# HUGHES COUNTY HISTORY



Dedicated to the Hardy Pioneers  
Who Wrought Homes Here  
and  
Contributed to the Development of this Territory

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Persevering friends who dwelt here

# HUGHES COUNTY HISTORY

Compiled and Arranged in the  
Office of County Superintendent of Schools

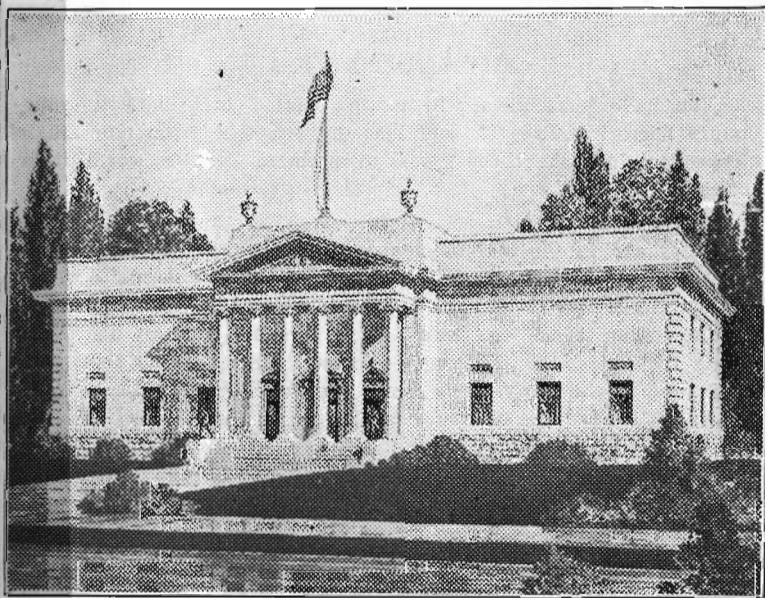
Hughes County, So. Dak.

Published in Spring of 1937

Articles contributed by pupils, teachers, pioneers and historical authorities. Appropriate newspaper clippings are acknowledged.

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Bert L. Hall, Pierre, South Dakota



Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial Building, Pierre  
Completed, 1932

Museum and State Historical Office, Lawrence K. Fox, Secretary



Barrett Lowe, City Superintendent, Wessington Springs

## An Appreciation

You have honored me by asking that I contribute to your County Historical Project; and I assure you that I am more than pleased to do what little I can to promote such a worth-while activity.

When boys and girls set out in search for the romance of the past they are intellectual *voyageurs* in the good ship *Adventure*. Perhaps no history equals in interest that of our immediate vicinity. Events close to us are always comparatively of more importance than those far away. The knowledge that historical events took place on the very spots so familiar to us lends enchantment to the story. But when we ourselves go in search of history, and have the pleasure of putting it into writing for the first time, a double interest results.

Original research in local history offers us opportunities heretofore reserved for the professional historian. In opening these opportunities you render great service to yourselves as well as to your county and state; and in making the project possible your County Superintendent contributes admirably to the cause of education. Both you and he are to be congratulated. I wish such activities could be carried out in every county in the state.

—Barrett Lowe, Pres. Junior Historical Society.

## History Projects

History Projects, of this character are most commendable and should have the cooperation and support of every one. They assemble for use and analysis a volume of historical data not available by another method. As educational processes they are unsurpassed. The young citizens who have engaged in them are receiving a training of inestimable value and out of them there is certain to emerge a battalion of thinkers, writers, philosophers, historians and statesmen whose names will be held in pride and veneration by the generations to follow.

There is something especially fascinating about the history of one's own neighborhood. There is scarcely a yard of it that has not been impressed with some historical circumstance that is worthy of preservation. I know of no other plan for gathering and conserving these important data comparable to turning the student body of the county into enthusiastic search for them. I am sure the result will justify the methods employed. We of Hughes County are proud of your achievements.

—Doane Robinson, Secretary Emeritus, State Historical Society.

## A Just Tribute

A record of the history of Hughes County can well include growth and value of its educational institutions, and a portrayal of the high standard of its schools would be incomplete if reference was made to the teachers thereof.

The majority of their students are oftentimes dependent upon them for an incentive to attain scholarly success, while others absorb graces of character and moral worth as exemplified in the daily life of their beloved teacher. Faithful teachers! Theirs is more than the solving of mathematical problems or explanation of fixed rules. They have large groups whose individual dispositions and ideals are as varied as all the colors of the flower kingdom. . . . Here comes the question of how best to make a personal contact with a youthful mind that will bring desired results, and how and when to praise or punish. Great is the honor due to that teacher who can discipline and at the same time command the effect of the student.

The worth of such instructors cannot be gauged in terms of dollars and cents. Unlike those in other occupations, their years are limited as to length of service in their chosen profession, due to present-day decrees, and their months of work each year is curtailed, hence lessened income.



Society places in their hands its greatest possessions—children whose habits, minds and character are in their formative period—then too often it is loth to pay a just recompense.

That Hughes County has recognized these facts and acted wisely is proven by the high character of the products which its schools have given to the world.

—Chas. H. Anderson.



Utilizing the swings at Hillview, De Grey district, 1930

## A Dream Realized

At the meeting of the Hughes County Rural School Assn. on September 19, 1934, held in the basement of the Congregational church, the compiling and ultimate publication of a HUGHES COUNTY HISTORY was designated one of the objectives of the organization. The officers at that time were: Carol Gunnison, president; Katherine Bruce, vice president; Stella Stephenson, secretary; Zetta Laughlin, treasurer. The executive committee consisted of Harriet Woodard, Creta Grandle, Delila Bane, Carol Gunnison and Bert L. Hall.

Progress was slow at first; people weren't much interested when no definite assurance of a finished volume could be given. It required time and persistent effort to make the contacts that should be made. Repeated follow-ups were necessary in many instances to get desired results. All parts of the county should be covered yet the financial element limited the scope of the undertaking.

Co. Supt. Carlos E. Westover had made a beginning in this field before leaving office in 1933 by mimeographing and assembling in loose leaf form the best articles submitted by pupils in a Young Citizen League essay contest on the topic "My County." In fact, the Pierre "Days of '81" committee had previously stimulated research in pioneer lore by offering prizes to pupils for true local frontier stories.

After the September meeting referred to above, the schools in each school district were to secure a brief history of the early organization of such; also about first schools, teachers, patrons, etc. The early day settlers still alive were to be solicited for reminiscences. Persons especially versed in local history were to be invited to assist in the compilation.

So during the intervening months which have now grown into years, gradually and quietly the desired material has been accumulated and arranged and made ready for the printer. We hoped a good crop might bring the opportune time for such a financial venture.

The laborous task of compilation is drawing near completion as copy is turned over to the printer and proof is being checked for correction. The experience has been a pleasant one for the writers, making new acquaintances with the "builders" of our county, and becoming more intimate with those already known. We have enjoyed and been enriched in spirit by the undertaking.

An orthodox historian may be disappointed with our product. We sense that there are imperfections both in fact and in structure with information gleaned from innumerable sources. Would you be one of those to discount the willingness of pupil effort in attempting to help in this enterprise?

May you peruse this book with the attitude of one wishing for quiet adventure and reverent reverie, having as companions those rugged home-seeking men and women of a half century and longer ago? What if 50 or 55 years have dimmed memory so that there is a momentary slip of fact? Go back in anecdote with gray haired sires and dames for the sheer enjoyment of living again in that generation whose actors are fast passing from life's stage.

I cherish the vision of a mother, resting after work is done, sharing with somebody's grandmother, the aspirations nourished in arranging a claim shack home; a tired father with pipe and easy chair, experiencing the thrill of building a new business in a new town, in a new Empire, without the attendant hardships. Or I see a freckled boy in a rural school vitalizing the "Pioneer Unit" by becoming engrossed with the struggles of our forefathers.

We acknowledge assistance from the talented pen of Mary Giddings, Ft. Pierre artist, and to various parties for the loan of cuts.

In closing we wish to express appreciation for the many hands and minds and hearts which made this volume possible. The co-operation of the business and professional firms has been of inestimable help in the realization of this dream—this volume.

March 28, 1937.

—Amy B. and Bert L. Hall.

## Geological History

Hughes County is largely covered with glacial drift underlaid by several hundred feet of the Pierre shale formation and the chalk of the Cretaceous age. The soil, being largely glacial drift, contains large amounts of sand and many boulders, some of huge proportions. The border of one of the last thrusts of the great glacier is the eastern bank of the Missouri River which is the western boundary of Hughes County.

The great mass of ice and snow that formed the body of the glacier carried with them, or pushed before them, great masses of boulders from bedrock where it was formed far up in Canada.

In the moraine which runs along the bank of the Missouri in Hughes County, stone cutters find a good source of many kinds of fine granite useful for tombstones and building materials. The stones of the County Courthouse in Pierre were cut from the boulder found in this great moraine.

As is true in all glacial drift countries; many lake beds remain to show the visit of the great ice sheet. In Hughes County, practically all of these have been drained or the water has evaporated. However, in recent years impounding dams have been built across the outlets and artificial lakes are being formed in some of the old beds.

As was mentioned above, the soil is underlaid with what is known as the Pierre shale. This shale underlies most of the state in the formation somewhat like a saddle, with the pommel being headed in the Black Hills and the cantle being near Sioux Falls. Underlying this is found the Dakota sandstone beneath which is the granite layer. The sandstone is the water-bearing strata and varies from a thousand feet below the surface in the western side of the county, to sixteen hundred feet in the highest portion of the northwestern part of the county. Wells dug in the vicinity of Pierre and Harrold on the two borders of the county, range in depth from 1,160 feet to 1,537 feet; the later having penetrated a few feet into the granite. The greatest pressure from these wells is reported to be 210 pounds to the square inch, which is capable of raising the water to 1,900 feet above sea level. The water yields considerable gas, which has been utilized as the source of the city supply in Pierre.

In the Cretaceous strata are found many fossil crustaceans. These are remains of ancient forms of fish, and show that while this layer of the earth's surface was being formed, it was covered with water. There are only a very few places where lower strata rock protruded through and above this strata in South Dakota. The main one of these places is the Black Hills. The layers above this sandstone and chalk contain the fossil of the vertebras, and the members of the animal kingdom between the vertebras and the earlier forms. Along the banks of rivers in the cuts, they make through the rock, are often found the bones or fossil remains of some of these forms.

In the Memorial Building in Pierre there may be found the bones of a turtle, that was found on the bend of the Missouri above Pierre, which in life was almost as big as a small horse. Numerous other

types have been found from time to time by different expeditions from our own state, or college and museum collectors from the East who are making geological collections of the great western plains.

The soil in Hughes County is rich as a result of the disintegration of the bed rock of shale, mixed with the rich materials deposited by the glacier, the wind-blown materials, and decayed vegetable matter, found in the numerous water holes and lake beds of the post-glacial period.

One place for studying the different formations is in the deep railroad and highway cuts, particularly those near the Missouri River where the cuts are often very deep.

If one cares to distinguish between the soils before the glacier covered them and afterwards, one has but to look at the great hills of gumbo on the western bank of the Missouri, and the sandy boulder-strewn hills on the eastern side near Pierre.

No geological study has been made of the Pierre or Hughes County quadrangle, but a very interesting topographical map can be secured from the Department of Geological Survey at Washington, D. C. for \$.06, to show the contour of the land and other interesting features, in which one who is making a study of the county would be interested.

A. G. Wright, Principal, Pierre H. S.

## Brief Description and History of Hughes County

There are twenty-one and a half congressional townships consisting of 774 sq. mi., 495,360 acres. About seven townships are on the former Winnebago reservation in the southeastern part. The Missouri washes the entire southern border including 75 miles of the windings. The islands are: Echo, Lost, L. A. Framboise, Wood, Cedar, Dorian, Okobojo and Farm. There are two creeks of consequence, Medicine Knoll and Chapelle.

The county was named for Alexander Hughes of Elk Point; created in 1873 and readjusted in 1879 and was organized November 20, 1880, by Gov. Ordway. The county seat was located at Pierre. The Governor appointed three commissioners: George L. Ordway, Wm. R. Ledwich and Joseph Reed. The railroad reached Pierre about that time. Exploration dates to earliest Missouri river navigation. Several French men married Indian women and settled within the county as early as 1830. Chief settlement and trade was at Ft. Pierre on the west shore.

Three Rousseaus settled at the mouth of Medicine creek 1860. In 1855-6 Gen. Harvey established three military camps on the east side of the river for wood and pasturage. In 1863 Gen. Sully built Ft. Sully, five miles below Pierre. The first American settlement of prominence was made in 1873 when Thos. L. Riggs established an Indian Mission at Oahe which continues.

In 1889 Pierre became the state capitol. Government Indian School, U. S. Land Office, Dist. Court and Federal Court are located here.

Company A, First South Dakota, recruited at Pierre for the Phillipine war in 1904.

—Doane Robinson's Hist. of South Dakota and Alfred Theodore Andreas' Atlas (1884).

## A Few Fragments of History

Hughes county lies in Central South Dakota. It begins where the tenth guide meridian intersects the Missouri River; thence, north to the third standard parallel—its northern boundary. The Missouri River lies to the West. Its area is 485,760 acres.

The Chicago & North Western reached Pierre in 1880. There was a ferry at Pierre and much freight was hauled to the Black Hills. Freight and mail were hauled by wagon to Gettysburg from Blunt until 1887 when the railroad was completed between Gettysburg and Faulkton. In 1910, it was completed between Blunt and Gettysburg.—Irma Howard

Hughes County was organized in 1880. The first commissioners were: Mayor Ledwich, Joseph Reed, S. S. Laird. The court house was built in 1882. Bell was lynched in 1885. Judge Shanon held court in 1881. The first school building is now owned by Mrs. Louis Kehr. The great Pierre flood was in 1881. There are now six people living in Pierre who were living here in 1880: Mrs. Carrie Farnum, S. D. Blair, Burt Dickey, Palo Bianchi, Hank Hausman, and M. P. Martin.

—M. P. Martin, 1935.

## Who Teaches In An Older Schoolhouse?

According to records found in an old record book Mentor Standard school was built sometime between August 2, 1884 and July 3, 1885. Philip Pickering was hired to build the schoolhouse for \$575. J. K. Hamilton was clerk of the board; Samuel Strayer, director. Miss Maggie C. King was employed to teach a term of 3 months beginning Sept. 14, 1885 at \$30. per month.

—Orva Roda Olson.

## State Superintendents

Territorial and State Superintendents of the Department  
of Public Instruction

James S. Foster (ex-officio).....	1864-1868
T. McKendrick Stuart.....	1869
James S. Foster.....	1869-1870
J. W. Turner.....	1870-1871
E. W. Miller.....	1872-1874
J. J. McIntire.....	1875-1876
W. E. Caton.....	1877-1878



W. H. H. Beadle.....	1879-1885
A. Sheridan Jones.....	1885-1887
Eugene A. Dye.....	1887-1889
Leonard A. Rose.....	1889
Gilbert L. Pinkham.....	1889-1891
Cortez Salmon.....	1891-1895
Frank Crane.....	1895-1899
E. E. Collins.....	1899-1903
Geo. W. Nash.....	1903-1906
M. M. Ramer.....	1906-1907
H. A. Ustrud.....	1907-1911
C. G. Lawrence.....	1911-1915
Chas. H. Lugg.....	1915-1918
Fred L. Shaw.....	1918-1925
C. G. St. John.....	1925-1929
E. C. Giffen.....	1929-1933
I. D. Weeks.....	1933-1935
J. F. Hines.....	1935-

## County Superintendents

The following people have held office as County Superintendent in the Hughes County Schools since the first school district was established and organized in 1880.

1880-1882.....	William B. Williams (Resigned July 25, 1882).
1882-1883....	T. L. Riggs (Completed term)
1883-1887.....	J. C. Collister
1887-1891.....	Crosby G. Davis
1891-1893.....	Margaret C. King
1893-1897.....	Lizzie D. Laughlin
1897-1901.....	Emily F. White
1901-1905.....	Maude Russell Carter
1905-1909.....	Ida M. Hatch
1909-1913.....	W. E. Calhoun
1913-1917.....	Margaret Linden
1917-1921.....	Daisy Solberg
1921-1925.....	Grace E. Matteson
1925-1929.....	Bert L. Hall
1929-1933.....	Carlos Westover
1933-1937.....	Bert L. Hall
1937- .....	C. E. Westover

It is interesting to note that each of our County Superintendents were held over for two terms in office.

—Harriet Woodard.

## The Early Schools of Hughes County

A little over fifty-three years ago, December 23, 1880, when the Dakotas were known as the Dakota Territory, Wm. B. Williams accepted an appointment as the first superintendent of the public schools of Hughes County. After taking his oath of office he proceeded to attend to his official duties, one of which was to form the entire county into one school district, which was called School District Number One. Then in his own words, "I issued and caused to be posted up in five conspicuous places in the county, a notice, declaring the county as District One, and calling a meeting of the said School District for the purpose of electing district officers and attending to such other business as might lawfully come before it, to be held on January the 10th, 1881, at 8:00 o'clock P. M. at the Waiting Room of the Passenger Depot at Pierre." Upon that date the officers were duly elected and the business of the meeting attended to.

October 10, 1881 the county treasurer turned over to C. W. Richardson, the treasurer of the school district, the sum of \$820, which amount had been allotted to the school fund.

The first teacher's examination was held Nov. 3, 1881, with three candidates seeking certificates, namely: L. E. Penny, Louise Cavalier and E. L. Bundy.

Miss Louise Cavalier taught the one school then open in the district, at Pierre. The first school house was a small frame building, the material for which had been hauled to Pierre by teams, by Louis Kehr, a young business man who was opening up a general merchandise store at the corner of Dakota Ave., and Coteau Street. He had freighted in the material for his new store building and from the left over material the first school house in Hughes County was built. The school house was built just north of what is known now as the Pioneer Store, on Coteau Street. Today this first school house stands east of the store building on Dakota Avenue, a quaint reminder of those first school days enjoyed by the children of those first pioneers who did much to build up our community. Among those listed as the pupils of Miss Cavalier's school are: Carrie Herbison, Will Cessane and a sister, Maude Shirliff, Myrtle High, Max Kehr, and Glenn Store.

A year later L. E. Penny conducted the school in a very acceptable manner according to the notations of County Supt. Williams.

April 12, 1882 Supt. Williams hired a rig and visited the territory north and east of Pierre, and helped to organize two new school districts, to be known as School Districts Number Two and Three. These districts correspond with the districts now known as Peoria and Mentor. Peoria became district number three with a total of 27 children of school age, while Mentor became District Number Two with 21 school children to accommodate. These districts were carefully bounded by ribbons of red ink upon a map of the county, and kept on record by Supt. Williams.

The following officers were elected for these districts: Peoria: Yellow Hawk, Director; H. M. Riggs, Clerk; Arthur Ward, Treasurer. For Mentor District: J. M. Kleinfelter, Director; F. C. Bullis, Clerk; and Pete Alleman, Treasurer.

The fourth school district was formed after some delay, as muddy roads prevented a successful first meeting, but on January 20, 1882, the Rousseau District was lawfully organized with the following officers installed: Desirie Channie, Director; Wm. O'Donnell, Clerk, and M. C. Rousseau, Treasurer, with 26 children eligible for school enrollment. Miss Tina Heron seems to have been the first teacher in that district.

July 25, 1882, Supt. Williams resigned. According to his records he had received a total of \$21.75 for his work as County Supt. This included incidental expense for stamps, and the hiring of rigs for travel to the places of meeting for the organization of the four districts that had been formed during his term.

T. L. Riggs completed the term for Mr. Williams.

It was not until April 9, 1883 that the school districts named were renumbered and given their present boundary lines.

## SCHOOL DISTRICT HISTORY

### Arnott School

My family came to Raber Twp., March, 1907. At that time no school was established in this community; however, there were two families living here with school children, Margaret Kalish, who attended Snake Butte school; Paul and Hoyt Wiley, who were attending school in some shack in the Giddings locality.

The first school established in the Arnott District began the fall of 1907 in an old house belonging to Lon Hanks. Miss Nellie Monroe, from Howard was our first teacher. We attended school only six months per year—all in one stretch. The old house was cold but we had a good attendance. Billy Roach, and the Mathews, Wiley, Swift, Kalish, Daniels, and Whaley children. William, Gladys and I attended school part of the year, as the winters were long and time hung heavy on our hands those first two years.

J. P. Laughlin, Junkman and Billy Congdon were our school officers at that time. The fall of 1908 we commenced school in a claim shack owned by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Milligan which stood just across the road from our present Arnott school site.

The land is now owned by Mr. Frank Harbaugh, of Pierre. Eva Dix was homesteading the land our school was located on and the 80 acres just west was our teacher's.

We had a large enrollment and were very crowded. This sounds laughable, but is true; when the teacher wished to send a class to the blackboard, those sitting near the board had to be excused to make

room. It was very difficult for the teacher to keep order under such crowded conditions.

During the late fall or winter the contractor started work on the school building where it now stands. The rough lumber in the Arnott school came from P. J. Laughlin's timber on the river. By the latter part of March our Arnott school house was ready for use. I remember so well that nice fresh paint smell. I can't just remember, but I believe I was in the 4th grade; it might have been the 5th. We still have the same heating system, but some changes have been made in the school house as the walls are plastered now and were tin sheeted when constructed. I can't say exactly as to teachers' salaries then, but I think \$35 per month. My mother finished a term of school in the Black Lake district that year or the year before and it seems to me that was the salary.

Arnott school has been in continuous session since 1907. There has been an attempt a time or two to move the school house but in each instance it failed and the structure remains exactly where it was established. Mrs. Kathryn Pool was not one of the earliest teachers of the Arnott school, yet I consider her a pioneer and also Miss Laura Blake who is living in Pierre.

My father served on the school board for a number of years. I can't remember exactly the year, and those records have been destroyed. The school received its name from the Arnott post office.

—Grace Steiner.

## Valley School District

The first record of the Springdale School is in 1892 when the school board was composed of Richard Brown as clerk; H. H. Brekke, as chairman and William H. Hillmer as treasurer. William H. Hillmer was the father of the present chairman of the school board, J. W. Hillmer.

The teacher at that time was Miss Mabel Dean, who received a salary of \$30 a month.

The school at that time was located on the now graveled road which is a mile west of the present location of the school. Later it was moved to about a quarter of a mile from where it now stands. Five years ago it was moved to its present location.

—Springdale School.

## Pleasant Valley Township

Mrs. Addie B. Jackson was the first school teacher of Pleasant Valley schools that we have records of in the superintendent's office. The term began March 28, 1887 and ended June 17, 1887.

Records are shown of a School Board in 1883 which consists of:

J. H. Vanhorn—President, Blunt.

J. C. Tansey—Clerk, Blunt.

Patrick Kelly—Treasurer, Blunt.

The census for 1884 shows that there were 17 school children in Pleasant Valley township at that time by actual enumeration.

Some of the family names found in this census were: Nafe, Brewster, Jackson, Dunn, Wheeler, Vanhorn, Brown and Mann.

## Pleasant Valley

Jim Ryan, who homesteaded here in the '80s, was one of the earliest residents of this district. Beth Eden school was previously called the Ryan school. At that time it was situated a mile and a half north of the present location. Beth Eden School is now on the quarter section which was originally the Dunn homestead. Miss Barkdoll gave the name of Beth Eden to this school soon after it was moved to the present location in 1923.

The earliest settlers of the district have now either retired or have passed on from this world. Most of the residents of this district at the present time have located here since 1920, with the exception of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Pool. Both Mr. and Mrs. Pool were teachers in this vicinity as young people, and since their marriage have made it their home. Mr. and Mrs. Russell have been in the country since 1912 and in this district for many years.

A new school has taken the place of the old Sunnyview school building. This old school house is now the farm home on the Otto Burki place.

The tornado in June 1924, took the lone ash tree which stood near the corner of Beth Eden schoolyard.

—Minnoise Hoyt, Beth Eden, teacher.

## Webster District

On the 9th of April 1883 the Co. Commissioners divided Hughes County into 21 School Districts, of which the Congressional township, No. 111, range 74, was known as Webster School District No. 8.

The first school election was held on May 13, 1884. The following officers were elected:

Clerk—A. J. Webster

Treasurer—Albert Jordan

Chairman—G. W. Giddings

The first school census was taken in 1884. The census listed 7 girls and 11 boys, with the following family names appearing: Thomas McNulty, G. W. Giddings, Albert Jordan, J. J. Kelley, Robert Miller, Mrs. L. E. Freres, Charles Schuster and A. J. Webster.

The first school term began under the supervision of Co. Supt. Crosby G. Davis and teacher, P. E. Chase. The school term began Aug. 8, 1887 and ended Feb. 29, 1888. A month elapsed and school again started on Apr. 23, ending for the year on June 22, 1888.



The following pupils were enrolled in the first school. Grade number is shown following name.

McNulty, Maggie—5

McNulty, Mary—4

McNulty, Nellie—3

Jordan, Earnest—3

McNulty, James—2

Nothdurft, Edward—2

Nothdurft, Earnest—2

Weatherwax, Frankie—1

Nothdurft, Tony—1

## Westminster Township

Westminster was organized on the 9th day of April, 1883. Congressional Township No. 112, range 74. The number of it was No. 7. It was later organized in with the territory now taken in by the Harrold District.

## Bretton School District

In compliance with section No. 24 of the school code approved March 8, 1833, the county commissioners divided the county into twenty-one school townships. No. 6 was named Bretton district and consisted of Congressional Township No. 112, Range 75. Three schools were organized in the Bretton District, namely East School in the S. W. corner of the E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Sec. 11; the North school or present Little Daisy in the S. E. corner of the W  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Sec. 4; and the South school or present N. R. G. in the N. W. corner of the W  $\frac{1}{2}$  of section 17.

The North school was moved from Sec. 4 to the S. E. corner of the E  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Sec. 5, Sept. 20, 1913, and the So. school was moved from Sec. 17 to the S. E. corner of the SE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 18, Aug. 7, 1924. It was rebuilt and the lighting facilities changed to conform with modern ideas. (The North school still stands as built.) The east end of Bretton consolidated with Harrold, June, 1920, thus leaving only two schools in Bretton. In 1934 the South school was closed, there being only 2 pupils. These two went to Little Daisy.

The first school term of the early nineties began in Nov. and lasted until March; the second began in Apr. and was out in June.

The average number of days taught was around 50 and the average attendance 14. The pupils' ages ranged from 5 to 20. The teacher's salary was \$30.00 per mo. A man teacher was hired during the winter term and a woman for the spring.

Names commonly found on the reports of the 90's were: Seeley, Clopper, Brekke, Lewis J. Borger, A. Enstad, Markus, Fred Foote, Plin Foote, Bert Foote, Elmer Knight, Blacks, Phillips, Garrets, John Lottie and Carey.

Books found in the first libraries were—Swinton Readers, Swinton Spellers, Robinson and Fish Arithmetic, Harney Grammars, Swinton's Geography and Pathfinder Physiology and Hygiene.

—Little Daisy.

## Dry Run District

(This material was taken from records filed in the office of the County Superintendent.)

In an early "Clerk's Record Book" we find the first account of Dry Run District, which states: "School township number 12 shall consist of congressional townships number 111 range 78; and fractional congressional townships number 110 range 78.

The oldest term reports of teachers were for the year 1886-1887. Found were four term reports for schools number 2, 3, 4, 5. The County Superintendent at this time was Mr. Crosby G. Davis of Blunt, South Dakota.

School number 2 began November 1, 1886. The term report was dated March 25, 1887 evidently the close of school. This school was taught by Kate Cronan who received a salary of \$30 a month. There were seventeen pupils in this school.

School number 3 began November 15, 1886 and ended March 18, 1887. The teacher J. M. Porter received \$35 a month. Five pupils attended this school. Comments on the school were "no dictionary and no globe."

School number 4, taught by Nellie Donahue began November 22, 1886. The term report was dated April 8, 1887. The teacher received \$35 a month. Ten pupils attended this school. Comments on the school were "no dictionary, or text books but has globe, maps, charts, etc."

School number 5 began November 3, 1886 and ended March 25, 1887. William J. B. Sherwood taught the school. School was in session one hundred days. Comments report "a coal and storm cellar; also charts and globe but no maps or dictionary." Seven pupils attended this school.

In a note and also a letter sent the County Superintendent J. C. Collister by John Rand, Director acting as Clerk of Dry Run township, on July 20, 1884 a report was made that there were fifty-six children over seven years and under twenty years of age and unmarried in Dry Run township.

The teacher's term reports and the school census for 1884 written by enumerator, Mrs. Jessie Hardy, listed such familiar names as these: "Mark, Jessie, Walter and Ralph Burton; Mike, Peter, Tracy, and Katie Biwer; Thomas, Laura, Joseph, Willie and Leon Chaussee; Leonard and Olive Scovel; Joseph, Minnie and Mary Bruette; Frank Babcock; Wallace Alexander, Frank and Justin Calhoun; Mable Taylor.

Account written by Norma D. Larsen.

## History of Logan District

In looking over Teachers' Reports a report was found for Logan School District of Dakota Territory dated Sept. 20th, 1886. It had been sent to J. C. Collister, presumably the County Superintendent at Har- rold. The teacher of school No. 2 was Florence M. Henderson. Jessie

Hunting, Lettie Veal, Della Veal, Mary Darling, Este Veal and May Veal were the first pupils of whom we have any record.

A report of the Clerk of Logan School Township, B. A. Tozier, in 1887 shows the school census to include 18 children. A notation gives the census of 1883 as 25. In a Supt's report of 1888 there is a rating of Mrs. Henderson's teaching as follows: Order of Gov't—100%, Methods of Instruction—90%, Gradation of School—90%, Thoroughness of Work—85%, Neatness of Work—80%, Condition of Room—80%.

On July 9, 1889 the minutes of the school board meeting revealed the hiring of three teachers at an approximate monthly salary of \$33.33 for six months. The school tax levied was 10 mills. The district's income for the year amounted to \$685.07. Natural philosophy was a subject listed but no one was enrolled.

The first school apportionment that we have any record of was made in 1892 to the school treasurer, J. P. Youngberg and it amounted to \$35.71.

The school board minutes that were recorded for March 31, 1903 were the first detailed report to which we had access. The school board consisted of Wm. Hopkins, Thomas Whalen and J. P. Youngberg. At this meeting it was recommended to allow professional Interest Certificate teachers \$1 per month more than non-professional teachers. The wages in 1907 were raised to \$40 for a 6 month divided term: 3 mos. in fall and 3 in spring.

In 1909 by a petition the location of the north school was moved from SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 20-112-77 to S. E. corner of Sec. 2-112-77. It was moved again in 1911.

In 1910 a seven month term of school was adopted and in 1912 the term was lengthened another month.

Medicine Knoll or which is better known as Medicine Butte is a high butte near Blunt in Logan Township. It is a land mark on the route from the Minnesota River to the Missouri. Fremont celebrated July 4, 1839 shooting rockets from the butte. There is a Sioux memorial in the form of a serpent to commemorate the bravery of a young man who once was keeping his fast upon it when he observed Ree enemies approaching. He was praying in such a loud voice that he attracted the attention of his relatives camped on a creek below who rushed to his rescue. The Pierre Kiwanis Club has placed a bronze marker on the corner three miles west of Blunt on Highway 14 to direct interested visitors to the old Indian land mark.

—Evelyn McCall.

## De Grey District

The history of Hughes County dates back many years as the majority of us already know, but unless we have made a special study of sections of this territory or by listening to tales of our grandparents or earlier settlers we do not recognize the significance of names and markings familiar to us.

Two names which we still use and will continue to use are: De Grey and Chapelle. De Grey is the name of a Post Office and Township in the central and southern part of the county and bordering on the Missouri River. Charles De Grey (1823-1877) is the person for whom these two places are named. Mr. De Grey was not born in South Dakota, but lived for many years at the mouth of Chapelle Creek. We find by asking old residents that his house would be out in the river now, because the river has washed away so much of the land.

Chapelle, a creek in the central and eastern portion of the county and emptying into the Missouri River near De Grey, was named after David Chapelle, who settled at the mouth of the creek about 1832.

At the mouth of the creek many interesting things have happened. We find that Lewis and Clark stopped at the mouth of the creek and spent the night. Another interesting feature that we find near is an old Ree Indian Fort. By talking to Tom White and Amos Shield, two of our older Indians, we find that this Ree camp was the permanent camp of the Rees, or it was their winter headquarters. When Mr. Hank Jones first moved there, he said that it was nearly impossible to go across the grounds with a team and wagon, but now we find that by careful driving one can go across it with a car, for the trenches and dugouts for the tepees are only four and five feet deep.

Around the outside of the fort is the trench, and near the creek on the east can be seen their runaway. On the other side of the creek was their burying grounds, where many interesting things have been found.

Another interesting thing which few people notice are the old Government Trails. Many of these can still be seen, and from the looks of the many beaten paths a great many hours were spent on these roads, and no telling all the hardships that have been encountered not only in a day, but for a great many years, by both whites and Indians.

An ordinary red colored rock that was in Section 14 of De Grey Township caused a great deal of comment, because of the fact that an imprint of a human hand and two crow feet could be seen on the top. Recently this rock has been removed from its natural surroundings, thus spoiling part of its historical value to people of the county and also South Dakota. No one seems to know what has become of this rock which has probably been in that same place for hundreds of years.

—Wildwood School.

(This rock about the size of a small barrel was brought to Pierre about 1935 and placed in front of the Memorial building where historical archives are kept. It is believed that Seward Leeper of Blunt had charge of this removal, who acted in the belief that the ancient relic was being placed where many more people could observe it.—Supt. Hall.)

## Crocus Hill History

Just north of the Will Sparks homestead a school started in the fall of 1904 in a tar paper claim shack. Mrs. Sparks was the first teacher

and she named it Crocus Hill. She took examination in Supt. Maud R. Carter's house in Pierre.

Six pupils attended: Frank, Ethel, Edna Schaap; Billy and Emma Congdon; Agnes Merickel. Edna died near the end of the term from injury on a swing board at home. Sarah "Sadie" Kelley, now McGaffee, taught the next year. Then the present building was built on the site where it now stands a mile east of the first building. Charlie Hilgenbacher, Pete Laughlin, and Bill Congdon was the School board. Hazel Johnson taught the first term in the new building. The school got its name from the multitude of Crocus flowers that bloomed in the spring.—

—Elva E. Sparks.

## Hillside School of Medicine Valley

The history of this school started in 1929. Formerly this was a part of the Blunt Independent School District. Then some of the families living outside of Blunt decided it would be cheaper and more convenient to have their own district. So the southwest corner of the Blunt district, reorganized into a district of nine sections, naming it the Medicine Valley district after the Medicine Creek which runs through it.

The first School Board Members were: Mrs. Dave Runge, George Sias, and Wilbur Hogue.

The first school which was held for two years was in a house on the Runge Ranch, only two children were enrolled.

It was decided to have a school in the center of the district. They bought a small building to which they built an addition and placed it where it now stands on NW-28-112-76. It has been named the "Hillside School," by the pupils.—Bernette Hertel.

## Paradise Valley School District

The first school board of Paradise Valley School District of which we have record was in 1922. The following people made it up:

M. B. Gregg, Chairman

Arne Hagemo, Clerk

Bernard Gregg, Treasurer

The first year the school was taught by Margaret Matthews, the first half, and Ida G. Jones the second half.

There were six pupils enrolled at the beginning of the year, who came from the families of St. John, Gregg, and Middletent.

## Buckeye School Township

The first school teacher that we have records of in the County Supt. office for Buckeye township was Kezia Voorus. Her school opened in April 11, 1887, and closed in July 1, 1887. We have records of a school board as far back as 1883-4. The members were:



William Cole—President

F. H. Steigmeyer—Clerk

Thomas Neeley—Treasurer

The earliest school census we have for Buckeye township dates back to 1884. The total number of pupils was 30. Among the family names recorded we find: Neeley, Cole, London, Crabbs, Herron, Keller, Young, Millen, and Horn.

## Joe Creek School District

The first school board of which we have any record in the office of the Supt. for Joe Creek School District was in 1922. The following made up the board:

Bert L. Hall—Joe Creek—Chairman

W. C. Rutherford—Joe Creek—Clerk

Fred Schenegge—De Grey—Treasurer

183395

Amy B. Hall was the first teacher in the Joe Creek District. There were 8 pupils in attendance at this school and they came from the following families: Barry, Rutherford, and Dougherty.

## Brief History Of Rousseau School District

Rousseau was first settled by French people who came here in 1880. There were two families who lived close together, one was M. C. Rousseau and the other a brother, Romeo Rousseau. M. C. Rousseau married a French Canadian woman and R. Rousseau married an Indian squaw. Rousseau station was named for them.

The M. C. Rousseau family had a trading post. The Indians brought furs to trade. They also cut trees down and traded them to the ferry boats that went up and down the Missouri River, these boats took them to the saw mills. There were many Indian camps near. Rousseau also had a post-office to handle mail for the nearby settlers. There was also a store where articles were kept, such as tobacco, foods, and clothing.

—Ethel Robley.

## Harrold Schools by An Early Teacher

In 1883 the place where Harrold now stands there was nothing, but prairie. Houses or a town could not be seen for miles around. It was not to remain so very long; land seekers and immigrants came crowding out into the West, bringing with them lumber enough to build a temporary shack in which to store their household goods.

Landseekers and immigrants were willing to pay what we consider a big price to sleep on the floor of a section house.

More lumber was soon shipped in and business buildings and shacks rapidly sprang into sight. The Sheldon was a part of the old hotel which was torn down in 1931. Most all the entertainment which the town afforded for its residents at that time was held in the Sheldon.

One of the most outstanding was the church services which were held in the dining room of the building.

In 1884 a public school was opened in a building formerly used as land office. It was situated east of where Dr. Martin lives. This building was used for two years. In this school house a teacher's examination was held. Among the persons who took this examination was Mr. K. M. Foot who afterwards taught in a country school.

In 1886 a large building was built and in 1922 the present brick structure was erected. In the second building the lower room was used for a school and the upper room was used for church services, Ladies' Aid meetings, Masonic gatherings, and various other entertainments and social affairs.

The third and fourth year of the public school, country children were brought in and the school numbered between 68 and 70 children. All of these were crowded into one room and one teacher was to, properly, teach them, receiving a salary of about 35 dollars per month.

This was a hard task because most of them came from different states, had different books, some having none at all and with many different classifications as to grades.

The settlers, of course, had thrilling experiences. None of the inhabitants had cars or had even seen one, but there was a rumor that a car was going through. The people all gathered in what was then main street to see the great novelty which it indeed, proved to be at this particular time. Although the car went only about five or ten miles an hour people stood back in order to give it plenty of room.

Another story is also told about a cyclone. Two or three men who were working on a well jumped into the well so that they might be sheltered from the storm. A little while later one of the men climbed to the top and peered over, "The town has been swept away," he told his fellow-men, after a long gaze. One of the other men then climbed up to look. "Why," he said, "you were looking north instead of south; the town is still standing." This was the laugh of the town for a couple of weeks.

This information was received from an old settler, Miss C. M. Hall of Harrold.

## Notes From Early Records—In Superintendent's Office

1902—Class Motto—"Will find a way, or make one."

1901—Hattie Pietrus, Buckeye, received perfect attendance certificate.

1902—Perfect Attendance

Everett Schumacher

Peter and Otto Lindbloom

Martin Samuelson

Gilbert Pearson

Albert, John, and Ida Westlund

Marion Ihli

1903—Class Motto—"I can and I will."

Only two 8th grade graduates, Lillie Pearson and Robert Riggs.

1904—Louisana Purchase Centennial Exposition at St. Louis—Excerpt from notice of S. D. World's Fair Commission.

"A great portion of the people of this nation look upon South Dakota as the home of the Indian, the cowboy and the outlaw, and wonder if we have any churches or schools. The great exposition will be an opportunity to show to all that in education, as well as the production of fine crops, South Dakota stands in the front line."

1906—Class Motto—"Be ready."

1906—Since last legislature added to the requirements for teacher's certificates a knowledge of S. D. history, the announcement that the American Book Co. has just issued "A Brief History of South Dakota," a little volume from the pen of Doane Robinson will be of special interest.

1906—Revised Course of Study.

1906—System of Ethical Training in Public Schools Adopted—"South Dakota is the first state in the union to adopt the system of moral and ethical training."

1906—Pres. Theodore Roosevelt causes furor by directing that 300 simplified spelling words recommended by the Carnegie committee be used in printing of public documents.

Here are a few: dasht, catalog, judgment, blusht, deprest, kist, claspt, drest, mama.

1906—Agitation for perfect universal language—Esperanto.

1906—Hans A. Ustrud—State Superintendent.

1907—Supt. Ida Hatch of Hughes Co., issued a call for 20 teachers needed to fill vacancies in the county.

## BLUNT EARLY DAY HAPPENINGS

### History of Blunt

By Virginia Leeper

The town of Blunt is located in northern Hughes County and was named after Mr. John E. Blunt, chief engineer for the Chicago and Northwestern railway when the railroad was first laid through this territory. It is situated in a beautiful valley which is traversed by Medicine Creek, and is famous for its fertile soil. When the valley was first settled it contained only the "Lone Tree," but possesses at the present time more trees than any other townsite in the county.

Few towns of its size can boast so varied and interesting a history as this one. The story of this settlement presents in an unusual way the panorama of events usually associated with a pioneer settlement. The rapid growth of the great central region of the United States, the great westward migration of population, the magnitude of which had never before been equaled in history is portrayed in small degree in the story of this one settlement.

The first record of the town dates back to 1880, the year when the Chicago and Northwestern railway was built through to Pierre. In that same year Mr. John Miller stopped off at this "siding" and he took a

claim just south of the present town. To this man goes the distinction of having been the first settler in Blunt.

There was no further settlement until January, 1882. On the sixth of that month Mr. George W. Freeland, Mr. John J. Stebbins and Mr. N. E. Westover took claims in the valley. Mr. William J. Leeper also came in January, 1882. Mr. Freeland built a shack under the only tree in the valley. This "Lone Tree" is still in existence and is located on the bank of a stream south of town at the site where a mill was located a few years later.

On the 23rd of March, 1882, a group of people known as the "Illinois Colony" arrived from Lincoln, Illinois, and the several families took claims in a body northwest of Blunt. During the spring a few continued to arrive from time to time. By July 4 there were about 65 persons in the vicinity.

A postoffice was opened in Blunt July 1, 1882, with N. E. Westover as postmaster. In that same year the first store was started in Blunt by W. F. Seward of Pierre. The first Newspaper made its appearance in March, 1882 and was known as the *Medicine Valley Times*. The *Advocate*, the present Blunt paper put out its first edition July 21, 1883.

The original townsite was platted in 1882 and by April 1, lots in Stebbins and Freeland's addition were placed on sale.

According to an issue of the *Advocate*, dated August 4, 1883, the town of Blunt contained an unusual number of business buildings, it states that there were, "Hotels 6, groceries 12, law and land offices 11, lumber yards 9, dry goods stores 5, clothing stores 4, drug stores 4, hardware 6, saloons 5, bakeries 4," etc. The article summarizes, "This is certainly a very good business showing for a town of 1,000 inhabitants and only three months old."

The "eighties" were generally a prosperous time for the new settlement. New settlers came in large numbers, induced both by the railroad companies and the ease of obtaining new land. The trading territory surrounding Blunt was very large, extending south and west to the Missouri River, east for many miles and north for almost a hundred miles. Stages made regular trips to Le Beau, Fairbank, Clifton and other points north.

The period of greatest growth and prosperity for Blunt occurred during the decade between 1883 and 1893. The census reached a peak of 1600 inhabitants during that time. With all due respect to its able citizens and their best efforts to preserve this prosperity it is acknowledged that from 1893 to the present time there has been a very steady decline in business affairs in Blunt. Again we can draw the close parallel between the history of this particular town and a thousand other so-called "boom" towns. The peak at which it started could not be maintained for obvious natural reasons. In the first place a railroad was built extending from the East to Gettysburg, making this town a rival trading center to Blunt and drawing on much of its valuable trading territory. In the second place Pierre, only thirty miles distant became

the capital of the State and had always been the county seat of Hughes County. Many of the most enterprising of Blunt business men saw greater opportunities for wealth in the capital city and moved to Pierre. Drouth and depression soon discouraged some of the early settlers and they returned to their homes in the East or began cattle raising instead of farming.

Shortly after the turn of the century prosperity seemed to come back to the settlement in a small measure and the years 1906 to 1910 saw a period of renewed activity in the city of Blunt. In 1910 another event took place which tended further to diminish activity in Blunt. This was the building of the railroad north from Blunt to Gettysburg, relieving Blunt of her entire northern trading territory and further diminishing new enterprise in the town.

Two wars involving the United States have occurred during the life-time of Blunt, the Spanish-American and the World War. At these times of national emergency the citizens of Blunt were glad to give their utmost of life and property for their country. There are still a number of people residing here who took part in these combats and lack of time and space prevent mentioning their names here. However, we still recognize their service and failure to mention their names diminishes in no way our appreciation of their sacrifice.

A great many events of lasting importance to Blunt took place in the year 1920. A period of boom prosperity again seemed to invade the town. New settlers streamed in and land values again reached astonishing levels. The population, although much depleted since the days of early settlement reached a level to permit the establishment of a city form of government consisting of a mayor and councilmen.

The citizens of the town deemed it necessary to establish a four-year accredited high school and this was also accomplished in 1920. A new school building was erected to accommodate the enlarged program.

Some enterprising people of the town, believing in the possibility that oil could be located here, financed the drilling of a well in 1920. The attempt proved unsuccessful.

In May, 1920, a flood of quite severe proportions occurred in Blunt. A series of heavy spring rains had caused Medicine Creek to overflow, flooding almost the entire valley and causing considerable damage to homes and washing out 19 miles of track between Blunt and Pierre.

In 1921 the town voted to establish a municipal water supply system and since that time there have been fewer disastrous fires in Blunt.

Blunt has had its own history of incoming and outgoing people, the establishment of new businesses and failures and discouragements have likewise occurred. New homes have been built, old homes moved away until the present town resembles the settlement of 1883 not at all.

In the short space of this brief account it is impossible to mention the names of all the people who have helped to build the town, their efforts are duly appreciated and accounts of their activity can be found in records elsewhere.



By way of statistical information Blunt in July, 1934, is a town of approximately 500 citizens. The city government is headed by the mayor, W. S. Leeper, and the following councilmen, Gust Strom, H. Tennyson, L. Osterkamp, Arden Shipley, Lloyd Allison, G. E. Marsh and H. Glans, clerk. Blunt has four churches, Catholic, Presbyterian, Methodist and Christian. Other organizations of importance are the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, the Order of the Eastern Star and the Masonic Lodge.

The present school system consists of about 150 students, a superintendent and seven teachers. There are three buildings, a high school building, a grade school building and a gymnasium.

In conclusion I can only say that I consider it a great privilege to have been allowed to compile this brief history and have done my best with limited time, reference material and ability. If important events and characters have been omitted, I can only beg that I may be excused on this account.

Taken from our files of the Blunt Advocate under the dating of Saturday, July 21, 1883. This paper was a large 9 column, 4 page and entirely set by hand.

In an article headed, 'Blunt History,' we find recorded: "Many a town in the East no larger than Blunt have a history dating back to the Revolution. Usually those places have little besides their history to boast of. Blunt is willing to make the most of her history, but cares more for the busy present and the great future which she feels is just before her. One year ago the site where she now is located was a most beautiful, circular, prairie-bottom with only one or two buildings in view; three or four months ago only a few more shacks had been added, but with the opening of Spring and the influx of new settlers the new town began to take shape and most of the time has been booming. Even now during the season usually considered dull new buildings are started almost daily and merchants and hotel men report a good business.

In 1880 Mr. John Miller stopped off at the 'Siding' and took a claim just south of the present town. To him belongs the credit of having been the first settler in the vicinity of Blunt. Mr. Miller must have had a lonely time at his claim as there doesn't seem to have been any further settlement until 1882. On the 6th of January of that year Mr. George Freeland, Mr. John J. Stebbins, and Mr. N. E. Westover appear to have discovered simultaneously the advantages of this valley for a town-site and each squatted on a quarter section of land. Judge Leeper came in the same year and took up a claim close to the others.

"On the 23rd of March, 1882, what is known as the "Illinois Colony" arrived from Lincoln, Ill. and the several families took claims in a body just northeast of Blunt. This body consisted of Damascus Zollers, wife and two boys and married daughter, Mrs. Houney; Samuel Hayes, wife and three daughters; John Zollers and wife; J. J. Houtz and wife; George Raber, wife and little girl; Orin Reed and family; Finch Reed and family; Emanuel Ireland, wife and child; L. H. Dixon,

George J. Reed, Albert Eberts, Beverly Cooper, and Frank Cunningham, in all twenty-seven persons. During the spring a few more arrived and it is estimated about sixty-five were in the vicinity around the Fourth of July. In the Fall W. F. Seward and family came from Pierre and started a store on their claim northeast. A Postoffice was ordered opened at Blunt in July, 1882, but by some mistake it was located at the Tank, and was not moved to Blunt until August, when Mr. N. F. Westover was the Postmaster.

"The depot was located at the foot of Pierre street, a box car having previously done duty as both a passenger and freight depot.

"The first regular boarding house was opened in March by Mrs. Evans, now known as the Evans House. The Metropolitan Hotel, one of the largest and finest along the Dakota Central railroad was erected at a cost of over \$7,000.

"As an indication of the character of the people flocking into the new country it is only necessary to say that they did not neglect their religious duty. Preaching was held frequently last summer by Rev. McGready and others.

"Day school was opened in May by Miss Emma Kingsbury, to whom this community has been indebted for its first school facilities.

"Almost before the boom struck Blunt, a newspaper was started in March. It was known as the Medicine Valley Times and the first proprietors were A. C. Lanish and Thos. P. Hopp. It was published in the Westover & Houtz's land office, a room 14 feet square. The paper changed hands four times in as many weeks, the present proprietor taking possession May 21. It was the latest edition in Blunt as the Blunt Advocate; the first issue of which lays before you."

Another heading in this edition, OUR FIRST MANUFACTORY, relates to an enterprise operated by Mr. Sargent, "at his shop, between State street and Lone Tree avenue, he has in a small way begun to make bed springs and hopes to increase his facilities."

A graded race track was built so these early settlers could settle all arguments when it came to owning fast 'trotters.'

Another topic taken from this old copy, "Corn stalks the height of a man were shipped east by express. Evidently some resident is bound to convince incredulous friends in the east that Dakota is a corn country," "Drought is unknown and the crops are evidence of the exceeding productiveness of Dakota soil." "The grasses on the hills and in the valleys are the most nutritious in the world." "As a corn raising country it is unquestionably equal to Iowa or even Illinois."

Some of the advertisements were truly 'masterpieces.' One of them stated, "Disease Cured Without Medicine" which was a promotional argument in favor of the wonderments of the Magnetic Kidney Belt. Another would have it that "Hostetter's Bitters" was the only sure cure for any and all stomach disorders. Still another, "Wise's Axle Grease Never Gums." Many other small advertisements offered money to loan for proving up claims.

## Abe Lincoln's Teacher

One of the only tangible remnants of Abraham Lincoln's transactions with Dakota Territory, the state still unborn, is his signature scrawled awkwardly on an imposing document appointing J. P. Kidder, associate justice, February 3, 1865. The autograph, one of many famous ones, is treasured by State Historian Lawrence K. Fox. Lincoln signed the appointment only two months before his assassination. Thus, one of his first and one of his last official acts had to do with Dakota Territory.

According to Mr. Fox, Lincoln's school teacher once lived at Blunt. Coming to the Territory and residing at Blunt, Mentor Graham passed away and was buried there. A few years ago the former schoolmaster of the Civil War President was removed from his grave at Blunt and taken to Petersburg, Illinois, for interment, near the place of Lincoln's young manhood.

The name of Lincoln has been bestowed upon a county in South Dakota. And an attempt to create a new state out of the Black Hills region would perpetuate the name—Lincoln.

## Blunt's Early Days

(From a letter by Henry Hoffman, one of the early settlers.)

In reply to your request in the "Pierre Daily Dakotan", headed "OLD TIMERS ASKED TO HELP CHILDREN", will say I came to Blunt in the spring of 1883, from Plankinton, Aurora County, Dakota Territory, for at that time the present South Dakota had not been admitted as a state, and within one month after my arrival at Blunt as a resident of that place, I had the honor of being elected Chairman of the School Board of Blunt Township. The other two members of the school board were Charles Hammond, Secretary, and Dr. Vanvelsor, Treasurer. It became our duty to plan and build three school houses. The four room school house at Blunt was the largest of the three. This was planned so that as the town increased in population an additional four rooms could be built on the south side, thus making an eight room school building with an upper and a lower hallway as the entrance to the school rooms on both upper and lower floors. This building was located in the center of an entire block, thus giving plenty of playground for the children.

During the first few years after the founding of Blunt it had an estimated population of about 3,000 persons, and was the largest business center in the central part of South Dakota. Besides many retail stores it had a wholesale grocery operated by C. N. Hawley, a wholesale hardware store, many large lumber yards, a large opera house, many hotels and boarding houses, two flour mills, several church buildings besides many large and small residence buildings.

Of distinguished persons who honored Blunt with their presence were the Sioux Chief, Drifting Goose, and his interpreter, who made the

writer a very interesting visit, in which visit he stated that he was made Chief of the Sioux Indians because he always lived an upright life.

Another distinguished person was Miss Alice Hamill, daughter of S. S. Hamill, M.A., a world renowned elocutionist and author of "New Science of Elocution", who gave a magnificent entertainment in the Blunt Opera House.

But the greatest woman according to all history—ancient and modern—of the world that honored Blunt with her presence was Miss Susan B. Anthony, who started and persisted in a movement that has now freed the women of all the principal countries of the world. She stands out as the greatest woman of all times. The writer had the honor of visiting with her while he and his family accompanied her from Blunt to Onida, Sully County, where she delivered a lecture, the greatest the writer has ever had the privilege to hear.

## A Few Words of Early History at Blunt

My father came to Blunt in 1882. The U. S. Land Office was at Huron at that time. On Oct. 12, 1882, father filed on a half section of land 2 miles east of Blunt. Our homestead was NE $\frac{1}{4}$  15-112-76 and our tree claim was SW $\frac{1}{4}$  14-112-76 which we still own. We moved onto the land April 4, 1883. We came from South English, Keokuk Co., Iowa. We had 2 mules, 2 horses and 2 cows. You could get all the sod breaking you could do that year at \$6.00 per acre.

I went to school in Blunt with May Cowan, now Mrs. D. W. March, Jennie Stone, Frank and Fred Pigney, Emma Airhart, now Mrs. Tracy and Mrs. Gropengieser of Onida.

The county officers were: Commissioners G. W. Harris, P. F. McClure, S. G. Evans; Register of Deeds, J. A. McArthur; Sheriff, P. W. Comford; Treasurer, D. S. Williams; Justice of the Peace, C. N. Klienfelder and J. J. Houtz; Constables, John Bark, Nicholas Gearhard, W. H. Gray and Louis Scherzenger; Coroner, Dr. W. B. Steere. Officers in Blunt: J. C. Stebbins, Deputy Sheriff and Deputy U. S. Marshal; Constable, Orrin Reed; J. J. Houtz was Justice of the Peace.

The summer of 1883, Blunt had 2 flour mills and a broom factory run by Mr. Baker. The Opera Block was 72 x 51 with 3 store rooms downstairs. The second floor was used for the Opera House. The Metropolitan Hotel was 3 stories high and had frontage of 60 ft. on each of 2 streets. It was opened for business about the middle of June, 1883. The Dickover House, of 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  stories was open for business about May 1, 1883.

I broke the ground for the Youngblood Park where the grove now is, at the north end of main street.

Blunt had 2 banks, the Bank of Blunt and the Hughes Co. Bank, both doing a big business. Wm. Brown, real estate, later built the residence across the street from the St. Charles Hotel in Pierre. Dr. D. W. Robinson had an office in the Clapp and Son Drug store. He later came

to Pierre. N. E. Westover was first postmaster in Blunt. Chas. Burke had a real estate office. He located later at Pierre. Archie Cowan had a boot and shoe factory. He was the father of Mrs. D. W. Marsh. John and Bob Barkley had a harness and saddle factory. Kemp Bros., books and general store, later located in Pierre and built the Kemp block on Pierre Street. Wm. Rowland, A. E. Butler and Grishom Jones Hardware Co., had one building 24 x 70 with 2 stories and one 16 x 40. W. H. Gleckler and P. F. McClure, big hardware store, manager Lawrence Mauch. This firm also had a hardware store in Pierre at the same time. Holmes, Willsey furniture store later located on Pierre St., at Pierre. Schouweiler Bros., general store, all doing a prospering business.

In 1884 Blunt held a county fair. The grounds were 1 mile east of town. They had a nice round race track. There were many exhibits.

From the mouth of Medicine Creek on down the Missouri river was Indian Reservation. Chas. Barry had a log house about 3 miles down the river from Medicine Creek in the timber. At DeGrey there was Hank Jones and on the west side of the creek was Bill Gillen. In the lower end of the Big Bend Old St. John. These were all squaw men who had settled here in the early days.

In the early days we burned hay, flax straw and buffalo chips for fuel. We would gather the buffalo chips in the fall by the wagon load and store them under a dry roof for winter; when the snow was deep and we couldn't get anything else. Later we got wood from Chas. Barry, a squaw man, who lived down the river. We would go down and stay all night and sleep on the floor of his log cabin and pay him \$1.00 per load for the wood. It would take us 2 days to get a load of wood. Later we used to go down to the mouth of Chapelle Creek and get wood from Bill Gillan, also from Wm. Ashley Jones, a rebel soldier who used to give us "hell" if we ever mentioned a Union soldier; so we had to be a little careful what we said when we were around where this old devil was. He had killed several poor fellows in his time just because they had let their tongue run away with them.

In 1896 we had an awful hard winter, the snow was over two feet on the level. You couldn't get anywhere, if you ever got off the main trail.

The first couple in Blunt, to be made man and wife was in the shade of the old lone tree, which was a cottonwood.

We had a neighbor who had a claim about 1½ miles south of us. He had just an old shack, so he dug a little hole about 2 ft. square and 3 feet deep and put up a sign with this inscription on it: "These improvements might be better, and the water might be wetter, this hole will answer as a well even if water is not to be found this side of hell."

The Hughes County Courthouse was built in 1883 at Pierre, S. D. The corner stone was laid by the Odd Fellows lodge of Pierre and H. J. Simms was the master of ceremonies. He was a wholesale and retail liquor dealer and his place of business was on Pierre Street about where the Thomas Grocery is now. Pierre had street cars propelled by one

little mule, running from the Locke Hotel to East Pierre on Dakota Ave. Another line ran from the Locke Hotel one block west and then up the hill to Capitol Ave. This car was propelled by two little mules. All cars ran until 11 P. M.

Pierre had a number of large hotels. Among them was the North Western, a three story building, which was where the Harding Garage now stands. The Grand Pacific where the Red Owl Store now stands. The Park Hotel, which is the old Hospital building at this time; the Wells House of three stories which was about 6 blocks east of the

—By Gus Kleinschmidt, March 8, 1937.



Metropolitan Hotel, referred to in the previous article.

## The Blunt Oil Well

(By Celia Carey)

During the prosperous days of 1921-1922 promise of another boom came to Blunt in the promotion of the Blunt Oil Well. A Mr. Adams fostered the survey of the formations about Blunt and settled upon a site close to the railroad right of way about a quarter of a mile east of Blunt as the location of the oil dome which would bring wealth. The company was organized. Stock was sold, and more stock. Leases were made. People had visions of Blunt rising like the mushroom cities of the Oklahoma oil fields from a population of 600 people one day to a seething metropolis of 30,000 the next. The derrick was erected and engines and machinery were placed in readiness for drilling to begin.

On the day of the breaking of the ground a "Spudding In Day" celebration was held. People from the whole surrounding country came. A football game, bands, a stunting aeroplane, a parachute drop, and a barbecue were some of the events of the day. We children expected to see at any time a great fountain of oil burst from the top of the derrick.

The promoters continued to sell stock far and wide until all prospects had been urged to profit in this almost patriotic enterprise. But the oil did not appear nor has it to this day appeared.

Mr. Adams has gone in search of more capital, the stock holders have their worthless stock, and the derrick is in ruins. Another boom bubble has burst.

## The Great Blizzard

(Told by Mrs. E. F. Mercer to Mary Schroer)

Although the morning of January 12th, 1888, had seemed to promise a beautifully mild winter day a few flakes of snow began falling before the Mercer children were ready to leave for school. Mr. Mercer told the children to wait a few minutes to see what the weather would be. In the few minutes all possibility of going to school had passed. The few flakes had become myriads, and the roaring north west gale had blown the snow into a raging sea of white darkness. The blizzard of "'88" had begun.

Mr. Mercer and two of the boys went out of the house a short way, perhaps to the barn. In trying to come back to the house the boys missed the building and ran into the hitching post beyond. Considering carefully what direction to go they tried again and managed to hit the house. Their father had run into the pump nearer to the house and was able to find his way to the door.

Mr. Blakney, a teacher in a school a bit east of Blunt, wanted to get home to his wife because she was alone and would worry about him. He started and although at first he could see a little way ahead, he soon could see nothing but the whirling blinding snow. Taking his handkerchief he held it before him so he could tell which way the wind was blowing, because he knew it was blowing toward his home. By watching the handkerchief as a guide he struggled on until he stumbled against something which he knew was back of the house. Then he succeeded in crawling into the house.

Farther south east some of the school children had reached school before the storm struck. Many of them had to stay at the school for two or three days before they were able to leave.

## A Pioneer of 1895

The E. E. Simmons' family came to Blunt in 1895. They hauled their household goods to their farm west of Blunt in a wagon.

Before they could get their furniture in the house, they were

surprised by a blizzard not a very bad one to the people who lived here, but to a native of Ohio it seemed very severe.

Mr. Simmons operated a store in Blunt for about three years. The Indians came in to buy supplies. He says that he dreaded seeing a band of them arrive. They would stand looking at the shelves, see something they wanted and point at it. They never spoke a word of English. On being grunted at by the father, a small Indian child would state what was wanted. The Indians paid for the articles as they got them, then ran out side and counted their money.

Mr. Simmons also remembers when the Texas Longhorns roamed through the streets of the town, going to the artesian well to drink.

He tells of an amusing incident, when a bronco and his rider went bucking into the barber shop where Mr. Beebe, an old settler was getting a shave. Mr. Beebe jumped out of the chair, towel and lather flying, to chase them out.

Upon being asked why Blunt was located here instead of several miles east where a water tank that was called "Clear Water" was located, Mr. Simmons said that three prominent ranchers, one of them the aforementioned Mr. Beebe, had ranches here. They got together and persuaded the people to settle in Blunt.

—Thelma Frazier.

## An Experience of the E. F. Mercer Family

The Mercer family came to Hughes County in April, 1883. They settled on their claim three miles east of Blunt, along the side of the road which is known now as U.S. Highway, No. 14. On this farm Mrs. Mercer and two of her sons live at the present time.

Probably, the most prominent feature of that time was Bell's idea to murder Small. Small and Bell were two agents. Bell had his residence in Harrold, while Small stayed in Blunt. One day they agreed upon signing some papers. They met just east of the Mercer homestead. While Small was signing the document, Mr. Bell went to his wagon, got his hatchet, and then proceeded in the killing of Small. He wrapped Small's body in a blanket and buried him in a plowed field nearby.

Many days passed and the people of Blunt were very inquisitive about the disappearance of Small. A detective was secured to investigate the matter. He came out here, but kept the authority of the detective business a secret. As the detective was suspicious of Mr. Bell, he kept his residence in Harrold, near Bell's home. The detective pretended as though he had committed a murder. He had killed a man by the name of Small. Bell was then arrested and taken to Pierre, to the jail. After Bell was taken to Pierre, a riot broke out in Blunt and Harrold which resulted in a mob going to Pierre. The mob took hatchets and broke in the jail door. They took Bell captive. Bell was hung over the flag pole, in the court yard.



Mrs. Mercer recalls that at one time there were large fair grounds east of Blunt. The grounds had a large race track. There were many women riders. Although the people of those days did not have many vegetables, fruits and other things to exhibit, the women displayed beautiful fancy work.

—Florence Jane, Jennietta Shore, Gerald Shore.

## Early Pioneer Days

Mrs. Thomas Whalen endured many hardships in the early days of Hughes County. She lived in a dugout 10 miles south of Blunt. The dugout was built similar to a cave with a half-story house made over the top.

While living in this humble home, she experienced a severe blizzard which lasted two days in 1888. The snow was so thick that her husband took a clothesline, fastened one end to the dugout, and, after a long search for the barn, connected the other end of the line to the barn so he would be able to find his way back. In this terrible storm they lost nearly all their cattle. No train came from Huron for 105 days following this blizzard.

In those days everyone let his cattle run all over the prairie, and hired men to herd. During blizzards many cattle perished, because they had no shelter. The round-ups, where all cattle owners branded their cattle, were exciting occasions. Here the cowboys showed their great skill in catching wild, long-horned cattle.

Mrs. Whalen also remembered many very cold winters when the people had to wrap their feet with canvas to keep them from freezing. There was no wood and they had no money to buy coal so they had to resort to using cow chips and hay for fuel.

Mrs. John Miles was another pioneer lady who experienced many hardships. She related a very destructive fire started northwest of Okobojo in 1889 and swept through Hughes county down to the Missouri River. A wind blowing eighty miles an hour forced the flames along through the tall buffalo grass leaving behind a path of ruin. It took the fire only forty-five minutes to reach the river. Mrs. Miles told about Annie Sweeney who was alone on her father's farm. Annie saw the fire approaching and ran to free the stock, but before she had time to make her escape after finishing her mission the fire had surrounded the place and she perished with the stock. In memory of this girl's death a song was written telling of her brave attempt to free the cattle and escape, herself.

Many other such raging fires were witnessed by this pioneer woman. Such prairie fires were common occurrences in early days.

The experiences of these two women give a picture of only a few of the hardships suffered by the pioneers of Dakota Territory.

Sylvia Edge and Dorothy Wecker.

## Breaking Sod On The Prairies—Taber

(The Following Is A Reference Made To Hughes County In This Book)

Behind the little village, which we learned was named Blunt, massive hills rose one over the other. The road seemed endless, as we wended our way upward to the summit of what we afterward learned was called a "butte," one of a series of hills that, following the Missouri river, spread eastward until merged into the prairies.

When we reached the top, we found ourselves facing a country almost as flat as a table, which extended north and east as far as we could see. We had no trouble in following the road, as it was the only mark of man or beast in evidence. Not a house, not a barn was in sight; not a furrow of plowed land. Mile after mile we drove, and hour after hour!

Often, we would stop and get out of the buggy to rest and to pick prairie flowers; blossoms that we never before had seen. But what interested us most were the many buffalo skeletons, laid out, as it were, to bleach like white sheets upon the green prairies, mute evidence of an almost extinct form of life. Some of these skeletons were almost intact; the teeth in the jaws were unloosened, while great mats of coarse hair still clung to the skulls between the horns.

At one stop in particular, the feeling that perhaps the foot of white man never had trodden these virgin plains took possession of us and we felt that we were on holy ground. The prairie grass, swaying in the summer wind, gave the wide expanse of the country the semblance of a vast ocean, the waves of which never were at rest. I trembled with fear at the immensity of it all and wondered what this strange country held for us. I seemed in danger of losing all sense of personal identity, merged, as it were, into the eternal vastness of space.

## The Besancons

H. O. Besancon was one of the real pioneers of Hughes county, coming west from New York in 1883 for his wife's health, and locating at Harrold where he established the Harrold Star, a live paper that contributed its full share toward attracting settlers to this county. Mrs. Besancon did not regain her health and died that fall, being the first woman buried at Harrold.

In 1893 Mr. Besancon moved to Blunt and bought the Advocate from W. S. Ingham who had been preceded as publisher by George Schlosser. He continued as publisher of the Advocate from 1893 until his death in 1915, when the work was taken up by his son, C. E. Besancon who continued as editor and publisher until 1927 when he was succeeded by Harold Felhaber, and the following year C. E. and his wife (formerly Fern Dristy) and their children, Betty and Clark, moved to Rapid City where Claire has since been engaged in commercial printing until the first of this year when he became deputy auditor of Pennington county.

H. O. Besancon married Mrs. Lucinda Helm in 1886, and a few years

after her death married, in 1908, Mrs. Mary Holmes, a pioneer woman who located in Hyde county among the earliest settlers. Mrs. Besancon spent the last six years of her life at the State Soldiers' Home at Hot Springs, from where she frequently visited the Besancon home in Rapid City. She passed away March 17, 1936.

There were few projects of a community nature that required attention in the early days of Harrold and Blunt that did not receive an impetus from the ready pen and the helping hand of H. O. Besancon.

## The Barbecue

(Written by Regina Hoefer from information given her by  
Mrs. E. F. Mercer)

In 1885 during the boom days in Blunt a big celebration was held at which one of the main attractions for the interested immigrants from the East was an Indian War Dance. Over fifty Sioux braves took part in the dance and while many of the warriors wore white and Indian scalps on their belts they were not on the war path. As pay for the part they took in the celebration the Indians were given a beef by the town people. After beating the animal to death the Indians cooked it and partook of the feast.

## The Unfinished Railroad

(Written by Mary Schroer from information given her by  
Mrs. E. F. Mercer)

For a few years during the "Eighties" Blunt was thrilled with the prospect of having a second railroad build a line through the city. A group of men, believed by some to be carpetbaggers, organized the Duluth, Pierre, and Black Hills Railroad Company to build a railroad from Duluth through Aberdeen, Blunt and to Pierre. The company hoped to get money and grants of land from the United States government. The grade was actually completed most of the way from Aberdeen to Pierre but no rails were ever laid, either because the boom broke or the road was given up. The old grade still stands, rising in some places like long hills behind which stock find kindly shelter from wintry winds, and making in other places deep cuts in the hills.

## The Garver Family

The Garver family came to Dakota and to Blunt, May 26, 1883. The morning of the 27th, snow fell and during the day we had several inches, which was rather a dismal welcome to strangers in a strange land. We obtained a quarter of land as our preemption two miles north of town. It was covered up by another settler who intended to homestead it later. We had a two-room house and a good well and altogether we felt very prosperous. We knew full well what pioneering meant, though we never suffered, we had hardships to endure.

Blunt was a busy little town. All lines of business were well represented. We had near neighbors on almost every quarter of land; water was a great draw-back many had to haul it a long distance.

Our land was near the Sully county line, and the mail route over which all freight was hauled to Sully and Potter counties.

We were all happy and contented. Our chief enjoyment was going to town Saturday and going to Sunday school in a rural school house. We were not blessed with an abundance of wealth. We were just one great family willing to help each other in every way possible. Times were hard and trying.

We could usually raise vegetables. We called the little purple top turnips, Dakota apples, and ate them with great relish. We were never annoyed by Indians; it was a rare treat to come to town the 4th of July when they would put on some kind of entertainment for us.

—As dictated to Robert Tjomsland, a student.

## Adventures of William Hopkins

William Hopkins arrived in Hughes County Mar. 12, 1883. Blunt at this time was a very small town with only three buildings and one small tree. Two buildings were owned by N. E. Westover, one he used as a storage place for a small amount of lumber which he sold to settlers, the other was a post office. The other building, making the third in town, was owned by "Ol" Riggle, and he used it as a drug store and hotel, if you wished to sleep in a chair, on the counter, or on the floor. Mr. Hopkins wanted a place to sleep, finding all the best places on the counter and in the chairs occupied, he had to sleep on the floor. In the morning he had a breakfast which consisted of a piece of beef and a slice of bread; he paid a dollar for bed and breakfast.

When Mr. Hopkins came he brought 2 mules, 1 cow, 1 horse, and 2 chickens. As he had to go to Pierre for lumber to build his house, he hired a young man to take his cow and horse to his brother's ranch three miles north of Blunt. Taking his two mules and a wagon he started on a two day's trip to Pierre for lumber.

When he came back, he started at once to build a dug out. First he dug a hole 14 feet square and 3 feet deep. Over this he raised a sod top and relined the whole house with the lumber. When he had completed the walls and ceiling, he had only a few boards left; so he covered the floor with straw and rag rugs. One heavy door was the means of entering, and one window high in the wall, was the only way of lighting.

The Hopkins family had to go to Pierre to obtain food and clothing. When money became short, Mr. Hopkins rented his mules to Mr. White who was breaking sod between Pierre and Blunt. He received seven dollars and twenty cents a day for their use.

In 1885 there were many wild animals: badgers, deer, antelope, coyotes, wild cats, and other animals.

Very early in the morning on May 5, 1887, Mr. Hopkins and Arden Shipley started in a wagon, drawn by mules, to the Black Hills in search for a better place to settle. When they were just a few miles from Blunt, a terrible blizzard came up before they could get to shelter; they turned their wagon over and lay under it.

The blizzard left so much snow that the crude road to the Black Hills was blockaded; so they returned to Blunt.

—Extracts from Evelyn Nesheim, Alma Trueper, and Ellen Nesheim

## Experiences of Ed Carey

In the fall of 1882, Mr. Carey brought his family and worldly possessions to Blunt. At that time, Blunt consisted of a depot. Mr. Carey and his family solved their difficulty by sleeping all night in the box car containing their furniture. The next morning they went to Harrold. There they lived in a dugout. Nevertheless, the Careys called this "home" for three months. They built a new home southeast of Blunt—a sod house with a wooden roof and real windows! They constructed a rickety framework of 2 x 4's and built a roof of planks, extending it over the sides. Then they piled blocks of sod along the walls upward to reach the roof leaving space for windows. This was much better than a dugout. It was comparatively warm, although Mr. Carey tells of how they had to twist hay for fuel.

Mr. Carey, although he did not actually fight the Indians, was thoroughly frightened by them. One day, word came to him that Indians were near, holding a series of war dances. Mr. Carey took his wife and children and as many personal belongings as possible and stayed concealed in a nearby dugout overnight. Fortunately, the Indians didn't molest them, but their nearness to the wild redskins had caused terror to reign in the Carey family for a while.

Kerosene lamps were not very common and the Carey family had a device that they used in making candles; they would kill a beef and melt the tallow then pour it into the device used, and in this way, they could make nine candles at one time.

Mr. Carey tended fifty head of cattle for a man in Sioux City; after a short time he started into the cattle business for himself; he shipped in over four hundred head of cattle. He let them graze on land that is now a part of Blunt.

The Carey children received their high school education in Blunt, and all of them attended college.

Mr. Carey bought a big house in town, and the Carey family moved into this home about 1920. It was in this home that Mrs. Carey passed away.

—Grace Tennyson and Laura Albertus.

## When Mr. Fred Pigney Moved to Blunt

In the year of 1885 Fred Pigney moved to Blunt. He came to this city by train. Blunt had been settled two years.

A great amount of snow fell in 1888. There was so much that the trains were unable to run. It was impossible to travel by horse and wagon. Whenever anyone wished to go any place he had to go by horse and sled. Mail was carried from city to city by the section men. Many people had to burn hay. Mr. Pigney, however, was fortunate enough in having coal to burn.

—Thera Belle Gray.

## What Happened to J. W. Pyne

J. W. Pyne came from Danville, Ill., to Blunt in 1883. While here he met with many hardships, finally being forced to make his living by putting up hay.

Later he moved to Canning but here the problem of earning a living was not much easier than in Blunt. However, in 1884 he secured a contract from George Harris giving him the right to build a first class flour mill. Because there was no power to run his mill, he had to build a dam. This dam was built near a large spring which furnished the water power. John Kramer shoveled the first dirt for the structure. In order to complete this, it was necessary to tunnel about 400 feet through a hill. This was done entirely by hand. The dirt being carried out of the tunnel with wheelbarrows. When the mill was completed in 1885, it was a substantial frame structure, five stories high. It remained in operation 2 months. One night a severe rain storm loosened the bluff and a landslide destroyed the mill. Estal Pyne was in the building when it collapsed but escaped with a few minor scratches.

In the place of the flour mill Pyne built a small feed mill which operated several years and finally it was struck by lightning.

Pyne left Canning in 1893 to go to Leavensworth, Kansas, where he died destitute.—Russell Samco.



Ree Pottery

## Childhood of Blunt Lady Recalls Yankton Capitol

Mrs. Anna Marsh, one of Blunt's oldest and finest citizens, relates that her grandfather, Melancthon Hoyt, built the building at Yankton which housed the first meeting of the Territorial Council which was held in 1862. It was used as a meeting place of this group until the first capitol building was erected. It was also used as a residence, for school classes and church services.

From the picture she has, the building would not appear to be over 20x28 feet, a story and a half high, with a small lean-to built on the rear.

Mrs. Marsh, then 5 years of age, arrived in Yankton in the spring of 1865, making the trip from Sioux City by boat. She recalls with amusement that the trip took several days. One reason for the snail-like speed was that the owner of the boat was under contract with the government at \$100 per day and was in no great hurry to terminate the journey.

Dr. William Jayne, family physician for Abraham Lincoln, was the first territorial governor of Dakota.

## L. J. Walker Comes for Two Weeks; Stays 25 Years

Last Saturday night, L. J. Walker completed twenty-five years as Agent for the Northwestern Railroad. Mr. Walker tells us that when he came here he was to stay for two weeks and then be sent on to some other town, but it looks like it has been a long two weeks. We think that Mr. Walker has set a record for some of the younger men on the road to look up to and try to better it if they can.

During Mr. Walker's stay here he has taken active part in all the activities of the community. He has served on the City Council and at the present time is the Mayor of Blunt. Two of his children have grown up and graduated from the local school and are now attending the U. S. D.

We hope that Mr. Walker and his family will stay in Blunt as long as he is in service with the Northwestern Railroad and that he will make this city his home when he retires.

The Advocate joins with Mr. Walker's many friends in wishing him many more happy years in Blunt.

—Advocate, 1936.

## Workmen Demolish Old Hotel, Landmark

The Blunt Advocate—Oct. 1, 1936

Workmen are busy this week tearing down the old Blunt Hotel building, which is one of the oldest landmarks in Blunt and incidently, in Hughes county.

Erected during the 'land boom' in 1883, the old hotel building was among the very first substantially constructed buildings in Blunt. During the early 80's this rooming place had the reputation of being one of the finest along the railroad, offering city accommodations at a reasonable rate.

A few years after its erection the Blunt Hotel came under the able management of A. D. Tilton and it flourished in prosperity up until some dozen years of the 20th century when railroad travel began to decline. Year after year saw less patronage until about eight years ago it housed its last customer, unless for an occasional wayward tramp. Since that time the effects of time and weather have taken toll on the old landmark until it had become an eye-sore to Blunt's main street. The county having taken title to the property by virtue of tax deed, sold it recently and the lumber is being salvaged.

## See-Back-Agraph

From Blunt Advocate files, Sept. 22, 1883

### Locals

The Christianized Indians at the camp meeting in Peoria Bottom last Sunday partook of the Lord's Supper and soon after joined in a dog feast.

The corner stone of the court house at Pierre is to be laid this afternoon.

The Pierre Recorder says hereafter claim-jumpers will do well to give Blunt a wide berth.

In the ads we find mention of: Full Suits for \$3, \$4, and \$6. Sugar 10c per pound, Bacon 10c, Coffee 17c, and so on.

### Opening The Opera House

The event in Blunt this week has been the formal opening of Stebins' Opera House Monday by the Peerless Dramatic Company. A grand Ball followed Tuesday night's performance.

The dress and manners of the people showed wealth and refinement with all patrons appearing in full evening dress.

The curtain contains a life size painting of a Roman chariot drawn by three foaming steeds.



An Early Denizen of the Prairie



# PIERRE CHRONICLES

## City of Pierre

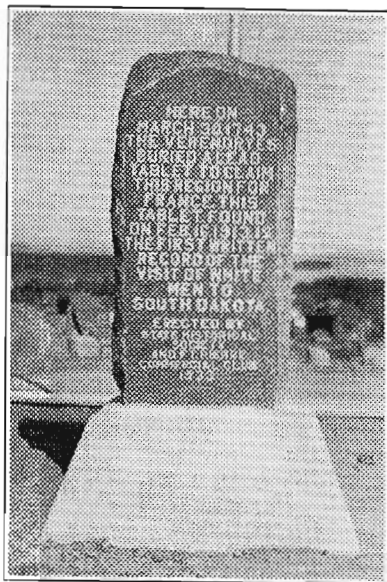
**History:** Long before Pierre was settled, the site was a playground and battleground for Indian tribes. First the Arikaras, or Rees, camped near the river and around the present site of the State Capitol. Then when the Sioux tribes invaded the region, driving out their predecessors, the location was again popular. Skeletons of Indians, together with remains of pottery, implements and arrowheads, have been found within the city limits.

The grounds of the Government Industrial School for Indians, bordering the city limits to the S. E., has yielded many relics and skeletons which are on display in the museum of the State Hist. Society.



Mary B. Giddings  
Verendryes Planting Plate in 1743

As early as 1743 the Verendrye expedition looked down upon the present site of Pierre from the hill above Ft. Pierre on which they planted the famous Verendrye plate. (East wing, museum of State Hist. Soc.) The Lewis and Clark expedition passed by in 1804, stopping across the Missouri River. In 1811 Manuel Lisa, Spanish fur trader, visited in the region; whether he actually camped on the site of Pierre is controversial.



Erected by Historical Society and Ft. Pierre Commercial Club, 1933

**Indians:** Although families having Indian blood are few within Pierre, a group of Sioux families live the year around in tents and improvised shacks near the Indian school (Lewis and Clark trail, S. D. 24, extending S. E. from Capitol). These Indian families have children in the school and wish to be near them. Lines of "jerked meat" near the tents may be seen from the highway.

There are 260 boys and girls in the "School for the Sioux," many of whom are breeds. Strange cases of hybridizations may be seen there as occasionally red haired and nearly blonde Indian youths will be found in attendance.

**Early Settlement:** The original site of the city of Pierre was once the squatter's right claim of Joseph Kirley who, with Napoleon Duchneau, operated a ferry to carry wagon trains across the river from 1878 to 1880. A double-barrelled shotgun and \$1,500 offered by the Chicago, Northwestern R. R. was received by Kirley for his claim along the river in 1880. The Kirley family, now living near the Cheyenne

River in Stanley county, still have the breech loading gun. It is in good condition.

To J. D. Hilger may go the honor of naming Pierre. In the spring of 1880 Hilger, a resident of Bismarck, N. D., drove by team to Fort Pierre, already a bustling town on the west side of the river. He had his lumber and household goods shipped by boat, billed "Pierre on the east side of the river opposite Ft. Pierre."

The lumber shipped by the J. D. and Anson Hilger brothers, was used to build the first frame house on what is now Highland avenue. In addition to the frame house there were sod huts and a log cabin. The Hilger residence was used as a clothing store, postoffice, church and saloon at various times.

On the level bottom land near the river the town grew (Missouri avenue. The low frame house behind the City Hall is an original building.)

Among the "firsts" were Hilger's clothing store, J. E. Carpenter's grocery store, M. P. Kinkaid's bank, the Albright and West lumber yard, C. W. Richardson's drug store and a saloon. Two newspapers were also established in 1880, the Signal and the Dakota Journal. There was no postoffice for C. J. Haines, first commissioned postmaster, so he used a house on wheels, drawn by oxen. Three hotels, the Pierre House, Stebbins and Northwestern, were built to accommodate the settlers, wagon train crews and adventurers.

With varied rumors flying about where the railroad bridge would be built, land promoters divided the new city. W. S. Wells, a promoter, sold lots in what is now East Pierre (east of the Capitol.) A newspaper, hotel, business district and homes sprung up in East Pierre, opening a strong rivalry between the two adjacent towns. The Park Hotel (which is now the old hospital building on Dakota ave.) was a compromise between the two young towns.

On Nov. 4, 1880 the first train (C & N. W. R. R.) reached Pierre, bringing more homesteaders. Becoming the most westerly railroad point in the region, Pierre was the center of freighting and passenger activity. Passengers and freight headed for the Black Hills were transported on ferry boats across the turbulent Missouri from where four-horse coaches and long oxen-drawn wagon trains stated daily trips to the Black Hills.

**Folklore:** Pierre in 1880 was the mecca for bull whackers, soldiers, gamblers, prospectors, ranchers and settlers. To this frontier town came such infamous characters as Calamity Jane, Nigger Nell and Arkansas.

Arkansas, a desperado, twice claimed the spotlight in Pierre's colorful history. The bewhiskered cardsharp and gun toter caused considerable trouble to law abiding citizens in the early '80's. He was run out of town by the Vigilantes, a volunteer law and order body, but returned with the announced intention of killing the leader of the Vigilantes. Arkansas, after being chased by armed men out of a saloon, hid in the brush near another saloon, waiting his chance for a good shot. But before his chance came a bullet from a Vigilante's gun killed him. After

the shooting, members of the self-elected posse took up a collection, bought Arkansas a black suit and made a wooden coffin. Not until workmen were excavating the basement for the present Capitol building was Arkansas more than legend. At that time (1904) an unearthened skull was identified as that of Arkansas and now reposes in the museum of the State Hist. Soc.

Another episode of citizens taking the law into their own hands was enacted in 1885 when Jas. H. Bell was lynched from a flagpole in the courthouse yard. Bell, a Harrold attorney who was being held in the county jail for the murder of Forest Small, a rival lawyer, was taken from his cell by an estimated 40 men. His cries for help were fruitless and the men calmly hanged him from a ladder leaned against the flagpole. To expedite the strangulation some of the men pulled on Bell's arms.

A yarn of how Whiskey Gulch, the wooded ravine north of the railroad bridge which crosses the river, derived its name has passed down through the years. When J. D. and Anson Hilger landed their cargo on the unsettled river bank they immediately set out to look for a claim on which to take squatter's rights. Ten-year-old Edward Hilger was left to guard the household goods in a gulch. The elder Hilgers met Napoleon Duchneau, N. Hathaway, Joseph Kirley and Hank Lafferty who directed them to a prospective location. Upon returning to their base of supplies, the Hilgers discovered that Duchneau, Hathaway and Dutch Mike had visited them during their absence, sampling a three-gallon keg of whiskey. The sample called for more and with a gallon apiece, the trio staged a jamboree in the gulch which became pungently named. A "jungle" in which tramps and transients cook and sleep under the stars is now located in the gulch.

Ever since the first frontiersmen came into the region, wearing boots to protect them from rattlesnakes and the elements, boots and breeches have been commonly worn by persons whose business or pleasure takes them into the surrounding hills. Otherwise, except for a few Indians and cowboys, the manner of dress is the same as that of any Eastern city.

**Development:** Following the eventful year of 1880 and spring of '81 in which the new town was cut off from the rest of the world from mid-December to late April by heavy snow and resultant floods, the town developed rapidly.—Federal Writer's Project, Pierre.

## Old Auditorium Talks

By Cyril Van Hise, Jan. 8, 1936

I guess I was created just to be tramped in, for I have stood for nearly thirty years of tramping and crowding and shoving and surging. I was built back in 1907, wasn't much of a building—quite a bit to folks that lived here then, but wouldn't rate very high now. The up and coming business men of that time (respected old timers to you now)

had taken up a subscription—I don't know much about money, but it was a sizeable amount—seems to me I heard say that Charlie Burke had put in five hundred—but anyway that's the way it happened and these fine fellows built me and turned me over to the city. I remember the building—remember it just as well as if it were yesterday—the carpenters started the floor in the morning—the sun was riding high and the robins a-twittering in the trees and it was a right happy bunch of young fellows that was working on me—Louie Heggland and Frank Smith, and it seems to me that John Biewer was foreman of the job. I recall how Tony Hengel used to come over every day and inspect the job—had two little boys tagging him—think one of them has grown into that ornery Al that's on the city commission, and Ed was about two jumps behind him—don't guess the rest of the bunch had showed up yet.

Well, I was finished in the fall of nineteen seven—all painted and dolled up like Pluster's ash mule, and did the gang put on a house warming for me—my—it sure was a good thing those carpenters had spiked me together good—called it the Gas Belt Exposition—it run big to parades, carnivals, a big stage show inside me, with agricultural exhibits all over the place (crops were plentiful them days)—ask Charlie Anderson about it—there were two or three of these Gas Belt affairs—seems to me they had a big famous band one time—what was it—Sousa—or something like that—I remember they had four dray loads of instruments and Hank Bloom nearly had a runaway when he was carting them up the back way and left his team standing below.

Then there's been soldiers parked inside of me almost since I can remember—last winter, you know, the CCC boys had to spend a few nights on my floors when the river was up—but old Battery "C"—say, I know every foot in that outfit—I can tell Archie Whiteman or Cocky Miller or McPherson the minute they set a foot on my floor—then there's the white collar bunch from the state-house—isn't it Dennison and Deweley, or Duel (I associate that one with a French breakfast party) and good old Skipper Scurr and Dr. Stout and all the gang that used to loaf around inside me and tell stories and smoke—I really liked to house that bunch—I'm American and patriotic clear thru to the last shingle nail.

Then there was them Democratic Rallies and the Republican Rallies—I could see right through those boys—after there were no more jobs they were like everyone else—that old party stuff was all front—right down inside those men and women were plain human beings and good old South Dakota stock at that—I liked 'em but didn't like the talks they made and didn't mean.

I couldn't write this stuff without mentioning one of the very finest things that has ever taken place inside me—course I remember some mighty fine musicals, and exhibits, and one thing and another, but allowing for all that—the McClure Christmas Parties—say, when about five hundred youngsters get inside me at that happy time of the year and start running around and really enjoying themselves waiting for

Santa Claus and Otto Linstad and Mrs. Bronte and a few more good souls to start dishing out the candy bags—well, I can just lay down happy, it was worth the chips.

You know, when you look back—it's been a mighty nice time—I think of the days when they used to heat me with wood and coal stoves—then a nice heating plant about the time Bill Pringle put those heavy timbers in my roof and raised particular thunder with my whole setup—and then a couple of years ago when his Honor (the best mayor that ever drew a breath) got me all fitted out with an oil burner that doesn't need any dinner bell or anything else—you can just sit down and close your doors and rest in peace—yes, but then that's all right, but just when I was beginning to enjoy it all—I'VE BEEN CONDEMNED!

That trial—those heart-rending court scenes when Ken Scurr fired the whole Legion post to get busy and help him condemn me—me, the Pierre Auditorium—who has set back here and served and served and served until I'm blistered and cracked and weak and wobbly—but still serving, Mind You!—condemned to die—I can see that city commission—my jury—passing on my case—Godfrey Roberts, the dirty pup, saying "Gentlemen, it's time that old building was wrecked and a modern structure erected that will be a credit to the city of Pierre" (and under his breath, "and the city commission")—and Ran Bagby waking up long enough to say, "I'm for it!"—and Step Stephens bellowing out a last admonition to the jury before it passed, without deliberation, the sentence that condemns me to the last resting place of all old buildings.

But there's just one thing—buildings is queer things, and you've heard a lot about this reincarnation stuff—reincarnated, yet, I'll come back—back perfected, strong, clean, supple, with my beams rivited, my seams tight, my walls solid, my floors glistening like polished billiard balls, and I'll serve you again and again and again. And the time will come when you'll condemn (not you, but your boys and gals) my successor and he'll be rebuilt again and he'll serve in my stead and partly because of me—it works out like a chain letter was supposed to, only it works. I'm glad to quit for a worthy successor, and you'll be proud of him and I hope you'll sometimes think of me.

Now, Friday night the firemen are having their annual dance inside me—they've been holding dances every year with me for the last twenty-eight or nine years, and every one has been a humdinger except that time way back when the blacksmith shop caught fire about the time the dance was half over and there wasn't anyone left in the hall excepting a man who'd lost a crutch—and they didn't even come back to shut me up that night. But getting back to what I was saying, Friday night the firemen are going to hold their fifty-fifth annual ball and from what they tell me it's going to be the last dance or public gathering of any kind that's held inside of me—I wish you folks—I'm speaking especially to the oldtimers, would come down—even if it's just for a little while, and take

a last look at me—in a few weeks I'll be torn down and wrecked to give way for a youngster, a modernist—the one I'll be part of—and I do so want you to remember my last party. Good-bye folks—I've liked so well to serve you.



Photograph by The Miller Studio  
Pierre \$45,000 Auditorium, Built in 1936

## Capitol Guide Tells Of Past Experiences

Showing visitors about the state house in Pierre is a far cry from chasing Indians across the prairie, but that's exactly the case of Gen. F. Burke O'Brien, 89 years old, once prominent in South Dakota and Minnesota political circles.

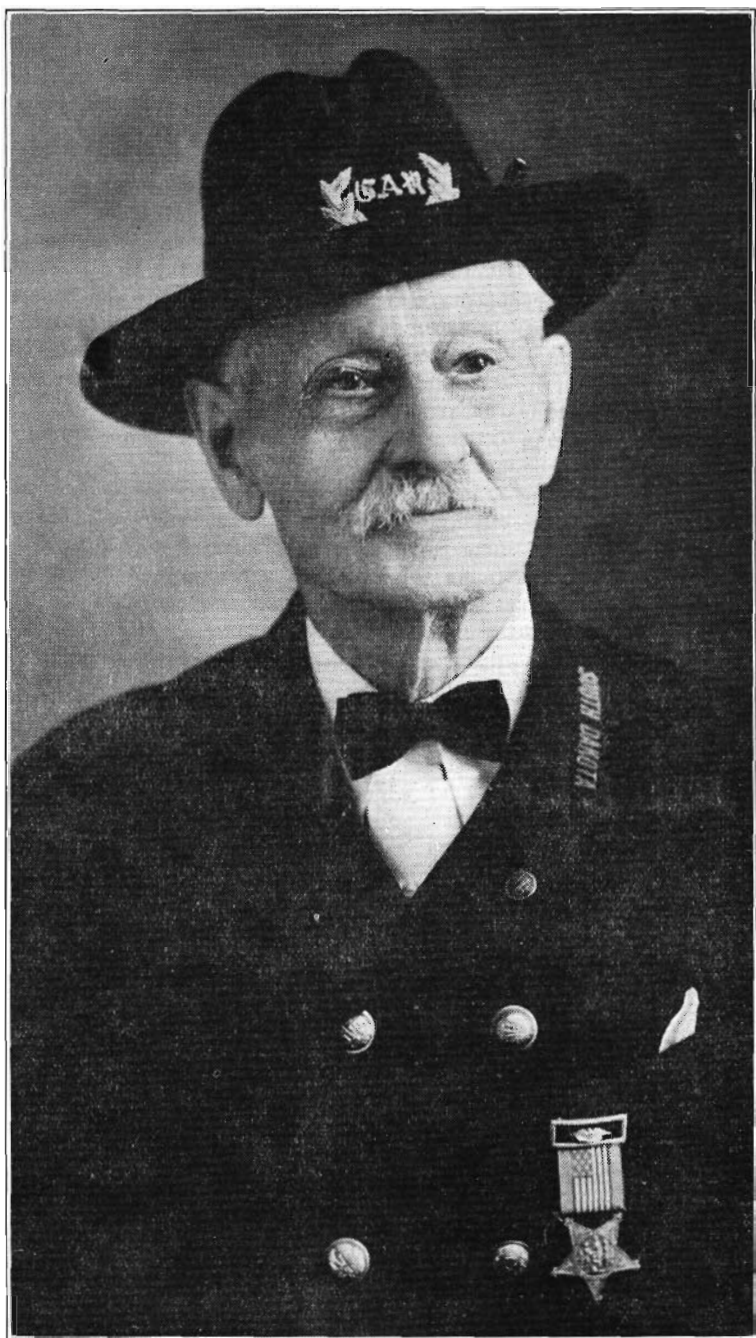
To walk into the lower corridor of the state's capitol and have some one tell you that the mild-mannered gentleman who guides you about the building is approaching the four score and ten mark would sound something like gross exaggeration.

Steeped in the hard school of experience, O'Brien is a typical example of a self-made man, his staunch Scotch-Irish heritage standing him in good stead. With only three years of schooling to his credit, he rose to success, climaxed when elected councilman in Minneapolis.

But the span of some 90 years is crammed with many other events. To begin with, he left home without his parents' consent at the age of 16 and joined General Sibley on a long trip in pursuit of Indians, starting at Fort Ridgley, Minn., and ending at Bismarck, N. D., after covering some 1,200 miles on foot.

It was near Bismarck that he first saw a person die. An Indian had been dropped from his horse, a gunshot wound leaving him at the mercy of his enemy. While still alive white soldiers scalped the helpless brave, though no word of agony was breathed from his stoic lips. The spectacle never left O'Brien's memory and today he can recall the incident as though it were yesterday.

That was in 1863. The next year he enlisted in the Union army and served under Gen. A. J. Smith. Through the muck and mire of fetid Tennessee swamps he followed the colors, fighting side by side with hard, seasoned veterans. Surviving five battles, including the battle of



Gen. F. Burke O'Brien



Nashville, he stayed during the remainder of the war and was in Alabama when General Lee surrendered.

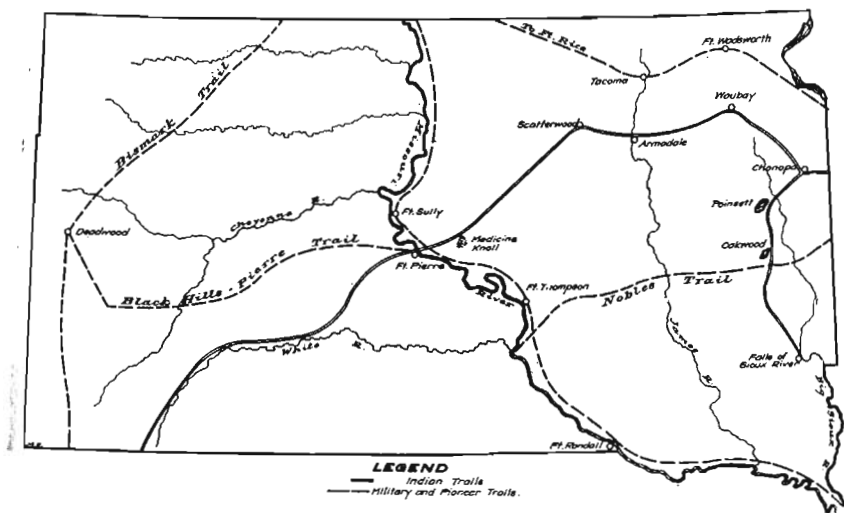
The title of general was given him in 1933 when he was elected commander of the G. A. R. of South Dakota. He is the only living Civil War veteran in Hughes county and one of the less than 40 in the state.

O'Brien shook hands with Abraham Lincoln in 1864 and that year he voted for him when he was seeking the presidency for the second term. Besides voting for Lincoln he has voted for 17 other presidents, doubtless a record that stands unchallenged by any one living today.

Coming to South Dakota in 1905, he worked for the Homestake Mining Company. His popularity grew and he was elected to the legislature from Lawrence county in 1909. He has lived in Pierre since 1920 and has served in several capacities. He was a member of the bonus board, worked as mail clerk at the state house, helped in the treasurer's office and in the cigarette tax department.

Numbered among O'Brien's acquaintances are persons from every walk in life. Once he met the governor of Siberia.

Upon first seeing O'Brien, strangers unfailingly guess his age at "about 70," and after talking with him his keenness of wit and memory for details make them think they have guessed too high. An enviable record of clean living, coupled with a background of life in the West, have given him the stamina to attain the age that most men never reach.—From Daily Dakotan, June 4, 1936.



## Freighting In The 80's

Mason Martin, one of the original settlers living here when the town was but a scattering of log houses and when firearms and whiskey were considered articles of trade, came to South Dakota in 1880.

The year of Martin's advent into Dakota territory is recalled by two events: the coldest, most prolonged seige of winter the state has experienced and the building of the Chicago and Northwestern railway into Dakota as far as Pierre.

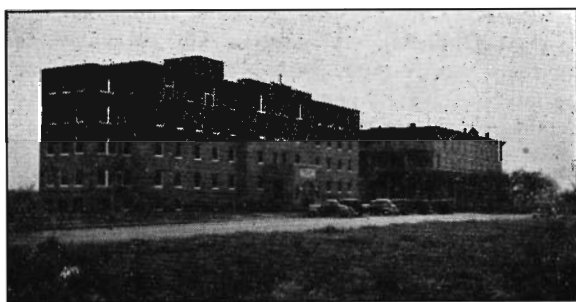
In December of that year Martin set out for Deadwood with a load of freight, his chief cargo being about two tons of kerosene. Reaching the Cheyenne river he was informed that the merchant for whom he was freighting had offered a \$50 bonus if he arrived in Deadwood with his cargo on a certain day, for the supply of illuminating fuel in the town had been depleted.

When he arrived with the much-needed source of lighting he said he never had a chance to carry his cargo into the store. Residents surrounded his wagon and bought the entire cargo of kerosene at \$2 a gallon.

Martin had left Pierre for Deadwood in December but it was April when he returned. The pioneer railroad fared little better, he said, Pierre not having had a train all winter.—From Fort Pierre Times, February 17, 1937.

## Old Tree Gone

The big cottonwood tree trunk that has stood in front of the Hank Hausman home on Coteau street, was all cut away today. This has been dismantled in part for sometime, but today it disappeared. This was a landmark, being a tree growing in front of the one business house that was located where it still stands in 1880. Mr. Hausman conducted a bakery and grocery store there 54 years ago, and this tree was finally taken down, for fear that its age might result in the tree or heavy limbs coming down on his building.—Capital Journal, Dec. 15, 1934.



Photograph by The Miller Studio  
St. Mary's Accredited 100 Bed Hospital

## St. Mary's Hospital, Pierre, S. Dak.

Early in 1899, Dr. Delorme W. Robinson, Pierre physician, having felt for some time the need of a hospital in Pierre, sent out inquiries to various Catholic Sisterhoods, inviting investigation with a view to open-

ing a hospital in what was then known as the Park Hotel. This building had been vacant for over seven years because of the transfer of the business section from East Pierre to its present location. A representative of the Sisters of St. Joseph of St. Paul came out and looked the situation over but declined the invitation to establish a hospital here. Later in the year a representative of the Benedictine Convent of the Sacred Heart of Yankton looked over the situation and agreed to give the idea a trial. On Friday, Sept. 1st, 1899, five Sisters arrived from Yankton with a combined working capital of \$20. Imagine, if you can, the task of preparing a building, vacant for seven years, so as to be suitable for the care of the sick. At the back door was a large pile of dirt and rubbish and as this was cleared away, cups, plates, pitchers, knives and forks were unearthed. These were scrubbed and sterilized and, together with a bread baking tin, were used in serving the first tray to the first patient, Mrs. Eugene Rich, who entered the hospital the day after the Sisters arrived. Later in the year five other Sisters arrived and gradually, room by room, the building was prepared for occupancy. As the patients began to enter one by one, and surgical and other equipment had to be supplied, Dr. Robinson donated the first operating room table. Sterilizing was done in open vessels and not under pressure as now. On Thanksgiving day, the Sisters invited the public to inspect the hospital. A program was given for the entertainment of the visitors and a lunch was served. On Dec. 8th, 1899, the first Hospital baby was born—the baby was named Mary Woods and is now Mrs. Sheets of Chadron, Nebraska, the mother of several children. On January 16th, 1900, the first operation was performed—an operation for rupture, by Dr. Robinson with Dr. Lavdry now of Aberdeen as assistant. Modern equipment was gradually added as funds were available and many times the citizens of Pierre, because of their faith in the ultimate success of the venture, gave and loaned money to the Sisters and helped them during emergencies. In 1911 a modernly equipped operating room was installed with high pressure sterilizers. It represented the latest in hospital equipment. Soon after the power house was added; modern laundry machinery was installed and the bakery and diet kitchen electrified. An example of the growth of the Hospital is demonstrated in the fact that in 1906, 304 patients were admitted to the hospital; in 1916—722; in 1926—1827 and in 1936—3038.

The need for a new, modern, fire-proof building had long been apparent to the Sisters and the citizens of Pierre and in 1929 a Committee composed of business men of Pierre and Ft. Pierre was appointed and plans laid for the erection of a new St. Mary's Hospital at a completed cost of approximately \$250,000. The contract was signed on Jan. 2nd, 1930; the corner stone was laid on May 18, 1930, and Dedication ceremonies held on Nov. 5th, 1930. The new Hospital is rated as a 100 bed hospital, modern in every detail, is accredited by the American College of Surgeons, assuring patients entering, the same service as an accredited Hospital in the Metropolis of any State in the Union. It is un-

usual, indeed, that the comparatively small city can boast of hospital facilities comparable to those available to citizens of Pierre. St. Mary's Hospital is the medical center for a territory with a radius of 100 to 150 miles from Pierre. Its success is in large measure due to the excellence of its medical staff and the complete cooperation of the people of Pierre and Central South Dakota. But above all, to the untiring devotion through the years of its growth, of the Benedictine Sisters.

—Geo. Kienholz.

## Farm Island

Presenting a vastly different appearance than in 1804 when a party of the Lewis and Clark expedition hunted deer and elk there, Farm Island has been developed into an outstanding recreational point of central South Dakota through work done by CCC boys with the cooperation of the United States forestry service.

So named because in early days soldiers and traders of old Fort Pierre used the sandy, three-mile strip for farming puposes, the island now reflects a combination of the modern and the rustic.

### Building Community House

Shelter cabins, boy and girl scout lodges, landscaped roads, picnic-ing grounds and a new community building, under construction, are among the additions to the land's natural picturesqueness.

Every year girl scouts from surrounding areas gather on Farm island for an extended outing, their lodge and its attendant camping facilities constituting one of the best camps of this nature west of the Mississippi river.

In addition to other uses, the island serves as a nursery ground for tree seedlings that are raised for later distribution in the shelterbelt area. Two million young trees, representing every kind raised in the shelterbelt area, were grown under irrigation last summer. Despite scourges of drouth, grasshoppers and bugs, water supplied by two large pumps enabled the trees to survive. They were recently dug and shipped to Brookings for distribution next spring.

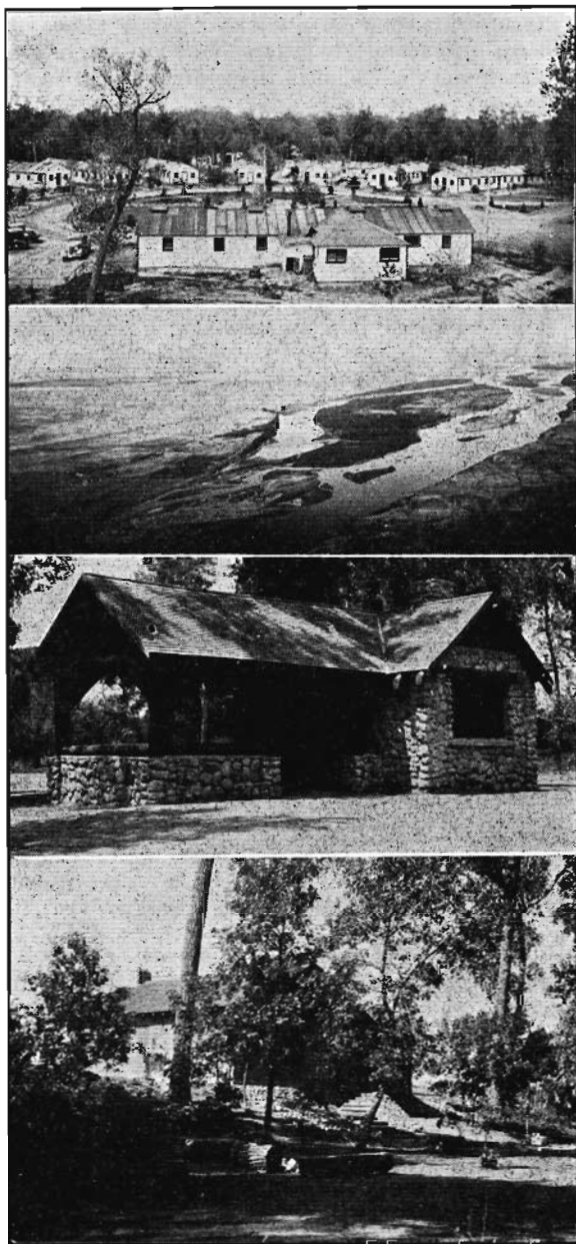
### Lake Named After Mayor

First taming a fork of the muddy, turbulent Missouri river in the face of skepticism of engineers, CCC boys joined the mainland to the island by a dam constructed of native materials. The result is a long, quiet stretch of water—Hipple lake, a popular fishing and swimming spot. The lake was named after Mayor John Hipple of Pierre because his energetic promotion of the island's development.

Farm Island's dense stretches of trees and thick underbrush provide an excellent retreat for birds and has been set aside as a game sanctuary.

—Sioux City Journal, 1936.

# Farm Island Scenes



1. CCC Camp
2. Airplane View

3. Shelter House
  4. Girl Scout Cabin
- From "Guide to Pierre and Vicinity"

## Hilts Grocery in Same Location as When First Opened

A burning desire to live in Pierre despite seeming unsurmountable difficulties has paid Mr. F. E. Hilts his reward and after thirty years in Pierre he points with pride to a business which was built from nothing. The foundation upon which he has constructed his business has been faith in Pierre and the unstinted service to his fellow townsmen and business associates.

The Hilts Grocery was established in 1907, in the building in which it is now located.

Mr. Frank Hilts was born in Spring Valley, Minnesota, in 1878 and moved with his parents to Milbank, South Dakota, in 1881, where his father established a home in the Dakota Territory. Mr. Hilts attended the Milbank city schools graduating from high school there in 1899. During vacations and at odd times he clerked and did other work in various stores in Milbank. In 1900 he enrolled in Brookings college and completed a business course there, graduating in 1901. For several years he was then employed by the Brookings Land company, of which Charlie Goodman was the manager.

Mr. Goodman desired land of a lower price for his customers, than that land in the eastern part of the state, and so came to Pierre and secured quarters with C. H. Anderson, in a building less than a hundred feet from what is now the North Western freight depot track. In 1906, Mr. Hilts came to Pierre to serve as sub-agent for Mr. Goodman. He was employed in this capacity for one year, after which time Mr. Goodman retired from business and went to California. Out of work, with but little money, and hating to leave Pierre, Mr. Hilts rented the room in which the store is now located, and put in a grocery stock, which he obtained from the Albright Company. Bert Garner went into partnership with Mr. Hilts, and in 1907, the Hilts Grocery store was established. In 1908, Mr. Hilts purchased Mr. Garner's partnership, Mr. Garner leaving Pierre then and moving to California, where he since has resided. From that time, The Hilts Grocery occupied the same location, with additional space, up to date.

In June 1908, he was married, and during the following year made proof upon his 160 acres of Stanley County land.

For years he has enjoyed his beautiful home, formerly known as the C. C. Bennett residence, and as a director of the First National Bank, and with his other well known holdings, he is recognized as successful in every sense of the word.

Mr. Hilts attributes his success to the faithful service of those who have worked for him, and to those who are now with him. His employees own their own homes and contribute to the welfare of our city, and have succeeded through the idea that, efficient service, plus a knowledge of the business, brings satisfactory results.

—Marian Holst.

## A Half Century in Pierre

Sept. 15, 1930, marked the 50th anniversary of my arrival in Pierre. I had first heard of Pierre, or Mattoe, as it was then called, in the spring of 1880. I secured a job with a surveying party locating the line from Pierre west and was given transportation to the end of the line as then completed. We arrived at the Lorie Tree about 8 o'clock P.M. and arranged with one of the teamsters to take us to Pierre. All he had was a lumber wagon and we did not reach Pierre until 3 o'clock A.M. on Sept. 15th, 1880.

We had to pass all the dance halls and saloons going up Missouri Ave., and they were going full blast. Dancing commenced at 9 o'clock P.M. and after each dance the lad would have to chase up to the bar and pay 50 cents for the drinks for him and his partner. As we were raised in a Methodist College town that would not permit even a pool table to operate, it was a decided change to see Pierre with everything wide open.

The next morning we met the prominent citizens of Pierre, stored our trunk and prepared to go out to the surveyor's camp, which we were told was at Lance Creek Holes, about where Hayes now stands. The surveying of the original plat in Pierre at that time had been completed and a number of prospective buyers were on hand waiting for a chance to buy lots, and the general opinion was that Pierre would soon be a city.

Everything was moving fast in Pierre. The Railroad Co. held a sale of lots in Oct. The first regular train reached Pierre on November 4th and there was a rush to get buildings up before winter stopped all work. Three hotels were under way, the Chicago & North Western and the North Western Transportation Co., were building offices and warehouses, and all kinds of business houses were being built. The block from Dakota Ave. to Missouri Ave., on Pierre St., was considered the best location for business and was covered with business houses.

Snow was falling almost every day and we heard that the road would probably be blocked. Mr. West went to Ohio to get married and got through on the last train east on December 20th, and we were snowed in until the first train came through on the 8th of May, 1881. After the trains stopped running it became very cold with deep snow and we could not do any work so put in a long and tiresome winter. The saloons and dance halls were in full operation, the saloons had a bar on one side and gambling tables on the other.

During the winter we received a few mails. The stage from Yankton made a few trips and a few mails were brought in from the Black Hills. The railway was completely blocked from Winona west. The Weekly Signal was our only paper but it soon stopped for lack of material. The last edition was printed on straw paper. Our chief amusement was cards.

I was alone at our lumber office but lived very well as we had shipped in some supplies from Winona and Mr. West's relatives, farmers

in Iowa, had sent him a box containing a generous supply of butter, bacon and other things that I appropriated. I had the only kerosene, bacon and butter in town, so was the envy of the poor fellows who did not have anything to grease their griddles.

Sunday, March 27th, the day of the flood, was a fine warm day. I was up about 8 o'clock A.M. and I saw that the ice was moving slowly. I did not stop for breakfast but hurried down to the foot of Pierre St. We could see that the water and ice were over the banks at Ft. Pierre and the people there were very busy carrying their property upon the hills. In a short time the water began backing up Pierre St. and we could see that the ice was piling up in the river. The ice did not break up at Farm Island and the channel on both sides of Rivers Island was completely blocked with huge cakes of ice. I decided that I had better get back to the lumber yard and I made a run for it, but the water beat me to it and when I reached my residence it was up to my knees. I threw everything loose up on the sleeping bunk and then put my efforts to saving lumber as it floated.

M. P. Kinkaid had a small bank on the corner of Coteau St. and Dakota Avenue and had about \$11,000.00 on deposit. He was afraid the building would go, so he secured a small building that he moved up about where the Fitch Block stands and carried his money up there. As night came on he was afraid that the rounders might make a raid on him, so got eleven of his friends to sleep with him and we all bunked on the floor armed for any attack.

I went out to see about getting the lumber back to the yard that I had saved by pushing up on higher ground. I found a fellow known as Scar Faced Joe in charge of it. He informed me that I would have to pay him \$20 a thousand before I could have the lumber. I went up town and the merchants there were having the same trouble. We held a meeting and decided to get rid of the fellows who were making the trouble. We picked up 14 men and one woman, bought a boat and put them in it and started them out on the river and told them not to return to Pierre.

I was appointed clerk of courts in 1881 and Sully and Hyde counties were attached to Hughes for judicial purposes. My first term of court was held in a building on Pierre St., just below the Bijou Theatre, with Judge Edgerton presiding.

Almost from the first Pierre engaged in Townsite, Court House and Capital fights. Six towns were in the first race. Pierre received the largest vote and Huron was second, and the year following we fought it out with Huron and won by a large majority. Mitchell ran later against Pierre but was badly defeated.

I was very much interested in the Indians who were with us on the survey west of the river. The squaws did all the work. They took down the tepees, loaded the wagons and when we arrived at the camp they put up the tents, got the wood and water and prepared supper, while the bucks lay on the ground resting.



During my 50 years in Pierre, I have traveled with every kind of conveyance—the Indians, with our surveying party, had travois—I traveled with bull trains, mule teams, stage coaches, carriages, automobiles and airplanes.

—L. B. Albright's pamphlet on "A Half Century in Pierre" in 1934.

## History of Vilas Drugs

Those were wild days when C. W. Richardson opened the Black Hawk Medicine Co., in a little frame building down by the river. Pierre was but a group of rambling shacks, sod huts and a log cabin or two. Saloons and gambling houses lined Missouri Ave., paralleling the river; here bull whackers from the Black Hills, soldiers from nearby Ft. Sully, prospectors, gamblers, bandits and homeseekers congregated, jostling as they toasted one another and not infrequently exchanged hot lead and curses. Here it was that Calamity Jane spent many years; here came "Nigger Nell" and "Arkansas," desperado of the old school.

Pierre, although small, was then as today a most important point in the route between the Black Hills and the "outer world." But a tiny dot in a vast and almost uncharted sea of rolling prairie land, it was the center of freighting activities, before the railroad came in 1881.

The Black Hawk Drug Store was originally located on the east side of lower Pierre St. In 1884 the frame building was destroyed by fire, after which Mr. Richardson rebuilt of brick on the same lot. He conducted the store on that site until the spring of 1909, when the business was purchased by Fred L. Vilas.

Here Mr. Vilas has striven always to provide those who came to him a type of pharmaceutical service which is more than selling—a service that places a well-conducted pharmacy on a plane far above that of a merchandising establishment.

In the days of the steamboat, the stage-coach and the ox train, Pierre was the most westerly rail point in the territory.

Vilas' Downtown Drug Store is of an ethical—although thoroughly modern type. It enjoys a substantial prescription practice and is devoted to supplying drugs, medicines and related merchandise. It is patronized by people from a radius of many miles. It has often been said that if you wish anything a bit out of the ordinary, you will find it at Vilas'.

The Vilas Uptown Drug Store is of the ultra-modern type, featuring a soda fountain and complete luncheonette service. The large fountain at the rear of the store is presided over by three young women carefully trained in fountain dispensing; it is the aim of the management that the service of the Store shall not be excelled anywhere. This Store was purchased by Vilas in 1928. It was completely remodeled and new fixtures, finished in duco enamel, installed throughout. An entire new stock was then placed on the shelves.

Since opening the Vilas Uptown Drug has enjoyed wonderful patronage, not only in fountain specialties but through its many attractive

departments. The convenient location, just a short distance from the state capitol, contributes to its popularity.

During recent years, Mr. Vilas has been aided in the conduct of the Vilas Drug Stores by his son, and, as time passes, Mr. Vilas is depending more and more upon his son to relieve him of some of his business responsibilities.

—"Golden Anniversary", Fred L. Vilas.

## Lucas Company Over 50 Years Old in Pierre

In the early days of Pierre, about 1883, the Leet and Knowlton company of Rochester, Minnesota, established a general store in Pierre, which was the foundation for the A. E. Lucas company.

The Leet and Knowlton store was opened in the Karcher building, now occupied by the L & L department store, and a large shipment of stock was sent out from Rochester, Minnesota. J. C. Eager, a relative of Mr. Knowlton came out to take charge, and the business continued in the same building and under the same management until 1903, when Clarence Knowlton came from Rochester to assist Mr. Eager. In 1905, Mr. E. P. Theim came to Pierre from Minnesota, and from that time on was associated with the store. In the same year the dry goods and ready-to-wear departments were moved from the Knowlton store, and established across the street in the north half of what is now the Tony Clothing company, and this new establishment was known as the C. E. Knowlton company.

Mr. Lucas came to Pierre from Oelwein, Iowa, in 1907, where he had been a buyer for Carson Pirie Scott of Chicago, and Mr. Lucas took over the active management of the Knowlton store which became known soon afterwards as the A. E. Lucas company. The business continued in the same location until that building was sold, Mr. Lucas then moving his establishment into the south side of the present location. At that time the building was owned by Dr. Ruble, and the part occupied by the Lucas company had previously been a card and smoke room.

In the north side of the building in which the Lucas store was established J. E. Mallery's store was located. In 1908, Mr. Mallery disposed of this store to a group of people known as the Capital Company. After various vicissitudes these people decided to dispose of their stock and in August, 1914, the A. E. Lucas company took it over. For a couple of years it was operated separately, with Mr. Theim in charge, assisted by Miss Eunice Sammis and Mildred Eager. In 1915, Mr. Lucas decided to consolidate the two stocks, and after an auction the building was re-decorated and archways cut through. By 1923, Mr. Lucas had purchased both buildings. In July, 1924, a beauty parlor was opened upstairs and operated for two years under the management of Miss Lou Fridley.

During the existence of the Lucas store many people have been associated with it, among them, Clara Steiner, Elsie Core, Mrs. Zoa Crawford, Mrs. Lynn Oldaker, Mrs. Dick Purcell, Helen Hayes, Dorothy

Wild, Mrs. Leon Murphy, Minnie Cox, Mrs. Elva Brown, Myrtle Chaussee, Mrs. Meda Griggs, Emma Winckler, Mrs. Ed Hanigan, Lillian Ahlquist, Rose and Loretta Burns, Mrs. Harry Morse, Neva Thayer, Arlie Brimmer, Stella Arneson, Ms. Nola Brown, Mary Davis and Mrs. Hazel Moulton.

Marion Holst—Capital Journal, 1935.

## New Governor's Mansion

LESLIE JENSEN, governor of South Dakota and one of the few Republican governors in the country, soon will move into the new governor's mansion, which was built during the preceding Democratic administration. Finishing touches now are being made on the interior of the building. The 18-room home cost approximately \$26,000. It was planned by resettlement administration architects and built by WPA labor. A bill before the legislature now in session asks \$13,500 of state funds to furnish the dwelling. Features include a large dining room for special occasions, an elevator, and four bath rooms. The latter furnished political ammunition in the fall campaign, Jensen contending that one bathroom would be ample as far as he was concerned. Governor and Mrs. Jensen have two children, a boy 6 years old, and a girl 3. Their home previously has been at Hot Springs.

—Minneapolis Journal, February, 1936.

## Congregational Church History

On Aug. 19, 1880, the movement had, through Rev. T. L. Riggs, come to the attention of the American Home Missionary Society of the Congregational Church, and Rev. W. B. Williams of Mondovi, Wis., was commissioned to preach at Ft. Pierre and vicinity. Mr. and Mrs. Williams lived in a little home, on the east side of Coteau St.

Eight persons assembled at this home on the evening of Nov. 28, 1880, and organized themselves into a Congregational Church.

Pierre was full of hard characters and the saloons and dance halls were the main attractions. The winter of 1880 was very severe. In a short time after trains quit running the town was out of coal, meat of all kinds, butter and kerosene, but there was a supply of flour and canned goods in the warehouses of Ft. Pierre. Conditions were such that it was almost impossible to get people interested in church matters.

Rev. Williams worked under conditions that were hard to overcome but he started a movement that grew and resulted in the present fine organization.

James A. Ward is the only survivor of the Charter Members of the Church. Mr. and Mrs. Ward were indispensable members of the Congregation.

On Jan. 2, 1881, the first observance of the ordinance of the Lord's Supper was kept in Pierre. On Sept. 11, 1881, when the church was less than 10 months old, it was unanimously voted to build a new church. Rev. Williams, J. A. Ward and Eugene Steere were appointed on the building committee.

The new church edifice was dedicated Sept. 10, 1882. No sooner was the church provided for, and with a debt of \$250 still upon it, than the congregation turned its attention to the erection of a parsonage. Ward and Sawtelle were appointed to solicit funds for it; Clough, McArthur and Norton were to find a location. The preliminary action was taken March 27, 1883, and the building was completed and occupied before winter.

The church plant so provided stood and served the society little changed until 1902 when a severe wind storm passed over the city and seriously injured the property. Its capacity was overcrowded before this and it was thought advisable to make some enlargement in connection with the necessary repairs. Consequently the wing was added to what is now the Highland Ave. end of the church, the pulpit was placed in its present position and the porch was built at that time. There were no further changes until 1907 when Mr. Charles L. Hyde, desiring to secure the church lots for business purposes, offered in exchange the present location of the church and parsonage, and 5,500 dollars. The offer was accepted.

Desiring a more commodious parsonage, the old building was sold for \$1100 and was removed to west Capitol Ave., where it still stands.

The church was moved to the new location at the corner of Highland and Prospect and a full basement placed under it.

Some of the ministers were: William B. Williams, Smith Norton, Henry A. Todd, James Oakey, Charles F. Reed, William A. Lyman, Elmer B. Whitcomb, James E. Ball, Thomas H. Ratcliffe, Benjamin T. Schawb.

Several notable laymen were: Wards, Steeres, Cloughs, Mallerys Hydes, Lockharts and Robinsons.

Always consecrated women bear the great burdens of church work and this church has been blest with very many such and is still so blest. Among the departed of these were Mrs. Lester H. Clow, Mrs. Corliss Mead, Mrs. James H. McCoy, Miss Sadie Robinson and many others.

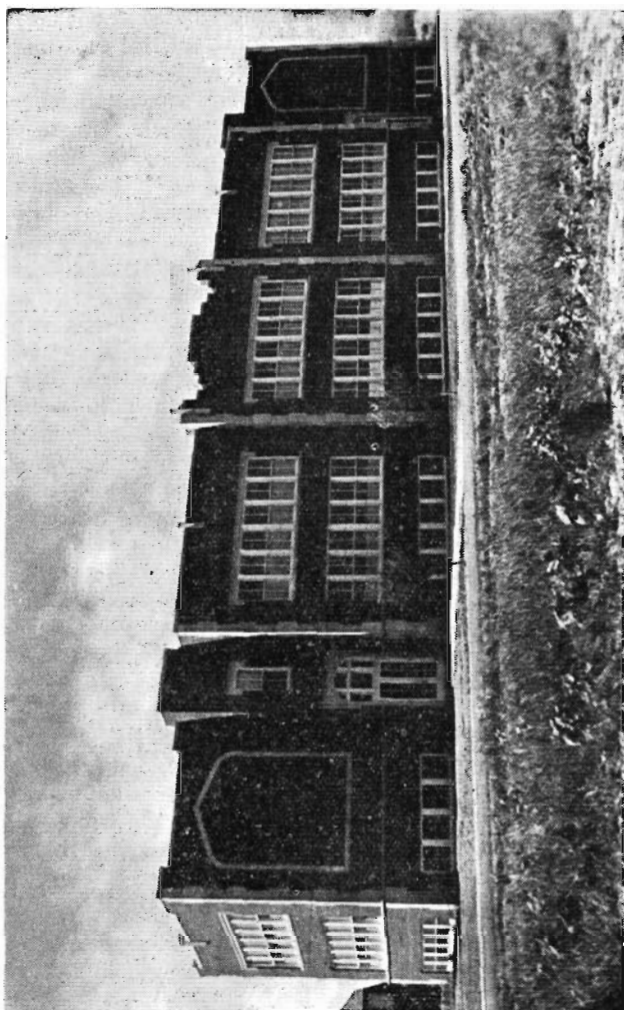
—Golden Jubilee History, 1930.

## History of Pierre Indian School

The Pierre Indian School has grown from a small, poorly equipped institution in 1891, to be one of the most modern and best equipped schools in the Indian territory.

We might say that it originated in 1888, for in that year a 20 acre tract of land was given to the U. S. Government by the South Dakota Livestock Association of Pierre, as a site for an Indian Industrial school. Old Indians tell how many moons ago this land formed a part of the bed of the Missouri River. As a farm in conjunction with the school, 160 acres of land about five miles north were purchased.

School opened for actual work on February 5, 1891, with Crosby B. Davis as Superintendent, and five pupils in attendance. These pupils were Arthur C. Bentley, Roy L. Bentley, sons of Lewis Bentley, of Cheyenne Agency; Emma, Olive and Hazel Philip, daughters of James



New Indian School Building—Cost \$115,000

"Scotty" Philip, owner of the largest wild buffalo herd in the country, whose ranch was located northwest of Fort Pierre. During the year 83 pupils were enrolled, 49 girls and 34 boys.

At this time the school consisted of three buildings—a large brick structure, now known as Morgan Hall; a laundry building and a stable. During 1891 additions were the brick building and boiler house; fire house, commissary and employees club building (remodeled and now used as a hospital) were constructed.

An artesian well was drilled at the school in 1893, a gusher of water and gas being brought in at a depth of 1,191 feet. An outdoor swimming pool was made near this well which was greatly enjoyed by the pupils. A cottage for the Superintendent was also constructed during this year. Below we list the Superintendents who have served the school:

Crosby G. Davis—1891-1901  
Wilson H. Cox—1901-1903  
J. C. Levingood—1904-1908  
C. W. Rastall—1908-1912

C. J. Crandall—1912-1922  
Claude R. Whitlock—1922-1930  
Clark B. Dickenson—1930  
Herbert C. Calhoun—1931-19—

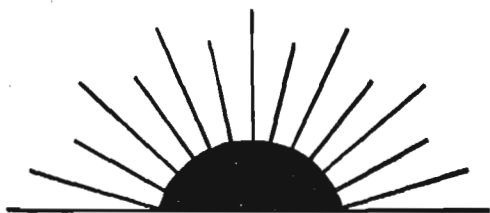
The enrollment has now increased to about 300 pupils. A recent purchase of additional land gives the school at the present time 336 acres in campus and school farm. The plant now consists of 13 brick buildings and 14 frame buildings. All buildings housing employees and pupils have hot and cold water, electric lights, and are heated by the central heating plant. The school maintains a dairy herd to provide milk for the pupils and each summer a large garden produces vegetables for the school kitchen. A \$110,000 school building is modern in every respect. On June 14, 1924 a tornado damaged the buildings to an extent of \$30,000. The dairy barn collapsed and three cows were killed. An extensive irrigation system has aided materially in furnishing food for the kitchen and feed for the livestock.

—Taken from the *Dakotah Days*, An Annual, 1936

Note: This Annual, consisting of perhaps 250 pages, is a masterpiece of composition, illustrations, and art work. It was a very purposeful project for the students, and is the best mimeograph product for its size that the writer has seen.—Superintendent Hall.

## Need for a City Museum

J. R. McKnight has donated to the city as a start for a city museum, two framed city warrants No. 1935 and No. 1937, both issued April 7, 1887, to P. F. McClure, each for one dollar, for mayor's salary of 1885 and 1886 and 1886 and 1887, the compensation being one dollar a year at that time. These are real relics and important from a historic standpoint. Pierre needs a municipal museum started. A great many articles of apparently trivial value perhaps, have great worth as a matter of historic record and interest. Fifty years makes a good beginning for any city or town record, and Pierre has passed that point by six years already. The oldest settlers are mighty few, and unfortunately many articles of real interest become discarded or destroyed, that might serve to great advantage in a local museum, such as Deadwood has and Rapid City is going to develop.



## Our Magnificent Sunsets

Nov. 21, 1935

Dear Mr. Hipple: I have lived in Pierre two months, and during that time I have been a regular and interested reader of the CAPITAL-JOURNAL.

Pierre has the grandest and most gorgeous sunsets of any city in the state. True there is an occasional gray day, and a semi-occasional flurry of dust, but night after night this fall there have been skies to make even a wayfaring man gasp at their beauty. Believe me, if we had to go to Europe to see such splendor, the artists and poets would immortalize it. Come in from your beloved Farm Island some night when clouds diffuse the sunset into a flaming glory east and west, north and south. No use to describe it. Anybody can see it—river, hills, sky illimitable, colors beyond description that glow and change into an ever deepening dusk.

If I were to leave tomorrow, I could never forget your vast expanse of gorgeous sky. In my memory Pierre will always be the city of magnificent sunsets.

Very truly yours,

(Mrs. B. A.) Jessie Dyar, 54 Pleasant Drive.

## Past Pierre Poetry

Mr. Hank Hausman, who is one of the four remaining first year residents of Pierre, has a great and interesting collection in his home on Coteau street. Among the things he dug up a few days ago is the following piece of poetry, which was put in printed form just as we reproduce it. Mr. Hausman does not remember the name of "Square Deal," but evidently he was some denizen of the past.

### OLD TIMERS

I've been in bleeding Kansas and Colorado too,  
I've lived among the mormons, likewise among the Sioux;  
I've prospected in the mountains and down the western slope,  
Worked hard till I would get a stake and drink till I was broke.

I've hunted in Wyoming and been in every part—  
Traveled in South Dakota till I knew it all by heart;  
I've rode upon the Northern cart without a bolt or nail,  
I've seen the tarantula of the south—driven cattle up the trail.

Of all the countries I've been in Dakota is the chief;  
The eastern part for wheat and flax, the west for sheep and beef.  
Homeseekers tried to farm the western part in vain,  
Mortgages was their only crop and not a pound of gain.

Some they come to plow and raise corn and wheat,  
While others come to preach and scheme and all their neighbors beat.  
The western ways they never learn, their hearts they are too small;  
They will cheat the angels out of their hearts if they ever reach Heaven  
at all.

Western men like western winds are perfectly wild and free,  
You can tell them by their actions wherever they may be.  
To help a friend in trouble is their highest aim,  
Or punish a thief or scoundrel, they will do it just the same.

Their ways they are different from any other men—  
To do as they are done by is just an honest plan  
I am willing to take chances like this to get to Heaven,  
With a nickle-plated christian our chances they are even.

Our language it is slang and sometimes it's very coarse,  
Our clothing **wa ka pa ma na**, or maybe it is worse.  
Beef, coffee and potatoes—that is our bill of fare,  
And prince or pauper either is welcome to his share.

I'm located now in Pierre and working by the day,  
I should have been a millionaire so the people say.  
I would not change the friends I have among the commonweal,  
And be classed with the 400 and licensed for to steal;  
I am glad to meet old timers and talk of days gone by,  
And just like Southwest Dakota, we are nearly always dry.

—Written for Chas. Barry by Square Deal.

## Pierre Man Owns Rare Collection

From the eastern boundary of South Dakota through the far-flung cow country of the west, from the state's largest city to the smallest tank town, the name of Al Hildebrandt has been heard.

And it has been heard because he has lived in South Dakota 43 years, experiencing every kind of life from a roundup cook to a successful business man, because he is a colorful character and because his place of business is one of the most unique in the state.

With a private museum comprising an assortment as varied as a



patchwork quilt and including the most complete collection of ammonites in the state, hundreds, perhaps thousands of visitors from South Dakota and other states visit the place each year. Mounted animals, birds and reptiles from all parts of the United States adorn the walls—diamond-back rattlers from the plains of Texas, pelicans from reedy marshes, bobcats, wolves, are but a part of the broad collection.

## Pierre Pioneers

Every community contains those who have been identified with its growth and advancement, morally, physically and financially. They and theirs find in their declining years, that while other climes may have allurements yet there is no place equal to the scenes, friends and associations of the "old home town." It is well that this is true, for it was only by the loyalty and persistency of "old timers" that Pierre was made and is known as a preeminent city of our state. Many pioneers have departed, either by death or removal elsewhere. Our younger generation, also those who have recently located here, may be interested in knowing the names of our early settlers together with those who have resided here on an average of forty-five years and whose ages in 1934 are indicative of our healthful climate.

Pioneers living elsewhere: Chas. H. Burke, Washington, D. C. (votes here); George Harris, in Texas; Ben Ash, in Hot Springs, S. D.; W. S. Wells in Alabama; James Ward, in Alabama; Robert Stewart, in New York; John D. Hilger, in St. Paul; C. C. Bennett, in Oklahoma; Coe I. Crawford, in Huron, S. D.; A. D. Mariott, in Omaha.

Called by death: L. B. Albright, Geo. Mathieson, Tracy Pratt, James Seebree, Herman Anding, Dr. L. Robinson, Ivan Goodner, Pat Comford, Fred Bonsey, J. L. Lockhart, P. F. McClure, A. S. Guthrie, R. N. Locke, John Laughlin, Robt. Brandhuber, Dr. O. N. Hoyt, Chas. Herbison, E. F. Dorothy, Wilmer Nelson, Joe Stainer, W. H. Gleckler, Col. L. L. Bullard, J. C. Eager, Geo. Bronte, Joe Binder, Rev. Blackburn, Eugene Steere, E. P. Farr, H. R. Horner, Geo. Fay, Geo. Smith, Anson Hilger, Jno. Williams, Louis Kehr, Jack Gelts, Noah Newbanks, H. E. Cutting, R. H. Proudfoot, James Rose, Ira Spurling, Tony Hengel, J. E. Mallery, B. A. Cummins, Col. S. S. Laird, Frank Lillibridge, Henry Karcher.

Pioneer citizens living, ages about 60 or more: J. K. Breeden, 90; Frank Edson, 84; A. F. Core, 60; J. J. Murphy, 63; P. L. Beckner, 66; Dr. Isenberg, 59; J. E. Hipple, 69; Ben Ash, 83; D. F. Turner, 72; N. Howard, 70; H. Walker, 67; Sam Logan, 81; Geo. Pickney, 68; I. M. Dotson, 75; Chas. L. Hyde, sr., 77; D. W. March, 70; Frank Rood, 85; S. C. Polley, 70; W. A. Branch, 72; A. W. Ewert, 70; B. J. Binford, 70; Chas. Elrod, 78; L. E. Gaffy, 85; Bert Dickey, 76; Joe Ihli, 71; H. R. Tarbell, 74; J. Sutherland, 78; Wm. King, 68; Ole Dahl, 62; M. J. Schubert, 81; Henry Reed, 60; S. D. Blair, 78; C. S.

Fisher, 74; Chas. Burke, 73; F. A. Beacom, 69; Geo. Coates, 74; Burke O'Brien, 87; Hank Hausman, 81; E. Jacobsen, 72; John Biwer, 76; D. McNeil, 74; Tom Roberts, sr., 72; Chas. Crew, 63; L. H. Clow, 91; E. B. Lee, 67; Wm. Borst, 77; J. Westlund, 86; C. H. Anderson, 80; C. D. Mead, 76; E. F. Swartz, 70; Mace Martin, 87; C. E. DeLand, 81; C. B. Billinghamurst, 72; W. E. Calhoun, 65; Bob Carlin, 62.

Undoubtedly many other names could be added to the above lists and while some of the ages named may be slightly inaccurate, yet variations will be unimportant. It will be seen that the average age of surviving pioneers is 75. Resident ladies, past and present, are not enumerated. This for the reason that data was difficult to secure, especially as to ages, which it was unsafe to assume from appearances or by interrogation.

Those who were here in 1880, now living here, are Mrs. Farnum, Hank Hausman, Bert Dickey and M. P. Martin.

Old Timer—Capital Journal, 1934.

## Directory of 1884

Mrs. M. J. Schubert has a directory of the city of Pierre published in 1884 by C. J. Haines, proprietor of the Signal Job office. In the preface to the book he says:

"It is with considerable pleasure that I am able to present to the people of Pierre a second annual City Directory. I do not know of another town in the world, the age of Pierre, that has its second annual City Directory. I expect to publish the City Directory regularly, henceforth, each summer. I thank the liberal minded people of Pierre for their generous support and heartily believe that this work will be of great benefit to the city and the people."

Pierre, Dakota, July, 1884.

Some of the advertising business houses of that day were:

SALMON, The Jeweler.

LOVE and STERLING, Attorneys.

A. S. GUTHRIE, Livery and Feed Stable.

O. H. INGRAM, Empire Lumber Co.

D. W. FOLEY, Wines, Liquors, Cigars.

E. H. ROCHE, Wines, Liquors, Cigars, also Pool Tables.

R. D. JONES, Wholesale and Retail Groceries.

E. L. EMERY, Chicago Laundry.

J. H. CHRISINGER, Hotel Brunswick.

DR. E. L. SIGGINS, Physician and Surgeon.

S. S. CLOUGH, H. F. SAWTELL, EUGENE STEERE of CITIZENS' BANK.

A. S. TRACY and SONS, Cigar Manufacturers.

C. D. MEAD, Attorney, Collector, Notary Public.

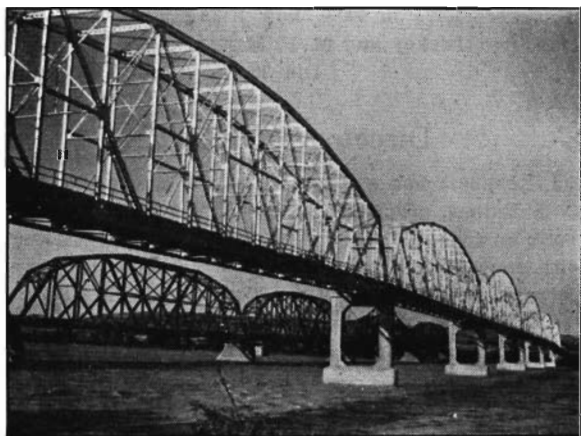
DAILY & WEEKLY FREE PRESS carry a page as does the CHICAGO, NORTH WESTERN RY., DAKOTA JOURNAL STEAM PRINTING HOUSE, THE PIERRE RECORDER, PIERRE WEEKLY SIGNAL, S. D. BLAIR, WELL DRILLER and WINDMILL UTILITY HAND. A page is used in depicting the advantages of the new townsite of Fielder on Spring Creek.

A large, first-class flouring mill was listed as the main industry in sight. Lots were to sell quite reasonable. W. M. Fielder was listed as proprietor, with H. A. Forsyth and C. E. DeLand, agents.

J. D. HILGER & CO., dealt in Gent's Clothing.

J. N. BOWEN ran a Meat Market.

The cover is illustrated with a two-stack steamboat and a wood-burning train.



Photograph by The Miller Studio  
One of Five Highway Bridges Built Across Missouri River in the State  
at a cost of \$430,006.54—J. E. Kirkham, Engineer.

## River Breakup

From the record of river breakup and ice going out from 1845 to 1935, inclusive, with the exception of a couple of missing dates. The ice has gone out in February three times, February 21, 1930, February 16, 1931, and February 12, 1934. It went out forty-eight years from March 1st to March 25, and eighteen years for the last week of March after the 25th; twenty years in April, with the latest April 20, 1846. From this record it is reasonable to expect that the ice will not move prior to the 15th of March or the 25th, and may be not until April. In 1881, the year of the big floods, the record shows March 27. In 1897, the spring after the big snow of that winter, it was March 29. From these

dates it is a good gamble that the river will not break up until sometime between March 25 and April 13.

—Capital Journal, Feb. 20, 1936.

## Flood Disaster of 1881

Feb. 6, 1937.—The misery in the flood washed valley of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers has retouched the memory of many of the state's old timers who experienced the disastrous Missouri river flood of 1881.

Following the ice-blocked winter which began in October, 1880, the spring of '81 boded evil as settlers began to speculate upon the aftermath of two feet of snow on the level and ice 42 inches thick on the Missouri river.

Sunday, March 27, broke warm and still—still except for the rumbling of the ice on the river, Fort Pierre residents already were scampering to the hills. At Farm Island a gorge formed and Pierre citizens soon became aware of the fact when the water drove them to the highlands.

## An Old Timer Talks

Pierre—"Ol' Man River" holds no terror for E. E. (Ernie) Senechal, who with his father, "Cap." Senechal piloted ferry boats across the restless turbulent Missouri river for more than 40 years in the two Dakotas.

Beginning his river career as a boy in his teens, Ernie learned the wiles of the treacherous Missouri from his father, and the two of them plied the muddy stream until the modern age obsoleted the ferry boat.

In telling of the high spots in his river career, at Pierre, Senechal relates the time when he carried a package containing \$10,000 in currency across the river alone and delivered it to "Scotty" Philip. Ignorant of the contents of the package, Senechal handed it to Philip and said, "Here's that package they sent over from the bank."

Scotty peered at him for a moment amused, then asked, "Do you know what was in that package?"

When Ernie shook his head, Scotty told him what it contained.

The \$10,000, incidentally, was the money that Scotty Philip used to purchase his first herd of buffalo from Pete Dupree.

Besides hauling passengers and vehicles between points, other tasks were undertaken. Thousands of cattle—usually wild critters from the west river plains—were driven onto the boat, and a hundred at a load transported across the river, regardless of its depths. Occasionally a breachy animal would climb the enclosure and jump to the swirling waters outside. In that case all hands were called to the rescue, the critter roped and guided or towed to shore in the best way possible. Without regard to the hazards encountered, the Senechals operated for 40 years without the loss of a person, vehicle or animal.—Fort Pierre Times.

## Ft. Pierre Flood July 3-4, 1905

Heavy rains in Stanley and Lyman counties filled Bad River and brought the Missouri river up. At 11 A.M. July 3 the Missouri river started to rise, and by evening it was bank full.

I believe the flood was caused by the breaking of Sunshine Dam about 75 miles up Bad River. This caused other smaller dams below there to break. The flood struck Ft. Pierre about 5 o'clock A. M. on July 4. People living near the river were routed out of their beds and fled to higher ground with what little property they could carry with them.

75 families were driven from their homes. 43 homes were wrecked or inundated and 17 houses were swept down the Missouri river. Eight of these houses, some of them still in good condition, floating upright and with no damage done in the second story rooms, were caught and tied up by George Harris, who lived at the head of Big Bend. There the current carried them in close enough to the bank so they were easily caught. Due to lack of rope they all slipped away from him.

The damage was estimated at \$20,000. Three people, a man, his wife, and child, lost their lives trying to cross the river to safety and about 120 people were left homeless, some sick and suffering from exposure.

People along the river watched for many days and caught what they could of the furniture and other things floating down. A feather bed, fully equipped with bedding and perfectly dry on top, was seen making its way down towards the Mississippi. One man rescued a fine looking piano which came in handy to trade to an Indian later. It still made a noise which was enough for the Indian. Fr. Ambrose says that many Indians practically furnished their homes with things salvaged from the river.

It is told that in one of the houses caught at the George Harris place the upstairs rooms were entirely undisturbed. In one of them a lady's red, white and blue dress was laid out on the bed all ready to wear at the big Fourth of July celebration which Ft. Pierre had planned.

The river came out of its banks below DeGrey, but it was not as high as it had been some years before that and was again in the spring of 1927.—Zetta Laughlin.

## Albright Company Celebrated 50th Anniversary Here

Capital Journal, 1931

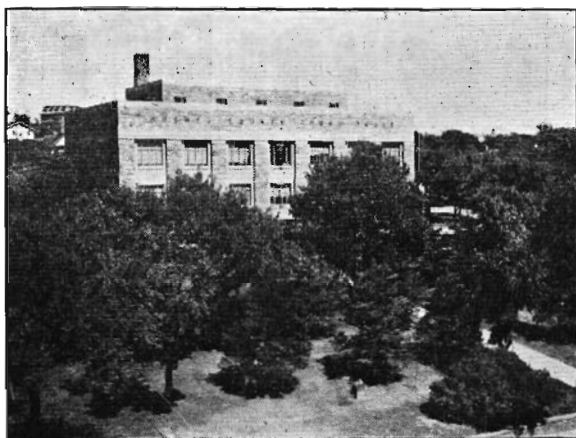
The L. B. Albright company of this city closed its observance of its fiftieth anniversary Thursday evening with a banquet at the Masonic Temple attended by officers and employees of the company and approximately 180 guests from customers of the company in Pierre and the surrounding territory.

Earlier in the day the officers of the company held open house in the

company offices, and the guests were entertained at the Bijou theatre in the afternoon.

C. B. Coon, president of the company, acted as toastmaster at the banquet, and introduced many customers who had dealt with the company for periods varying from 25 to 40 years. Among them were Rex Terry and A. C. Ricketts, Fort Pierre; M. L. Samco, Canning; Mr. Hopkins, Hayes; F. E. Hilts and J. F. Thomas, Pierre; C. V. Weed, Fort Pierre; Mrs. LaPlant, Cheyenne Agency; Henry Kertzman, Milesville; C. D. Murray, Midland, and F. L. Vilas, Pierre. Older customers included H. A. McGannon, Okobojo; and Chas. Fales and Anton Fischer, Fort Pierre. Two customers who have dealt with the company for 50 years were unable to attend, Mrs. Josephine Kehr of Pierre and Jacob Kluth, Forest City. Francis Hengel, Pierre, was introduced as the newest customer, having bought his initial stock of merchandise the night before.

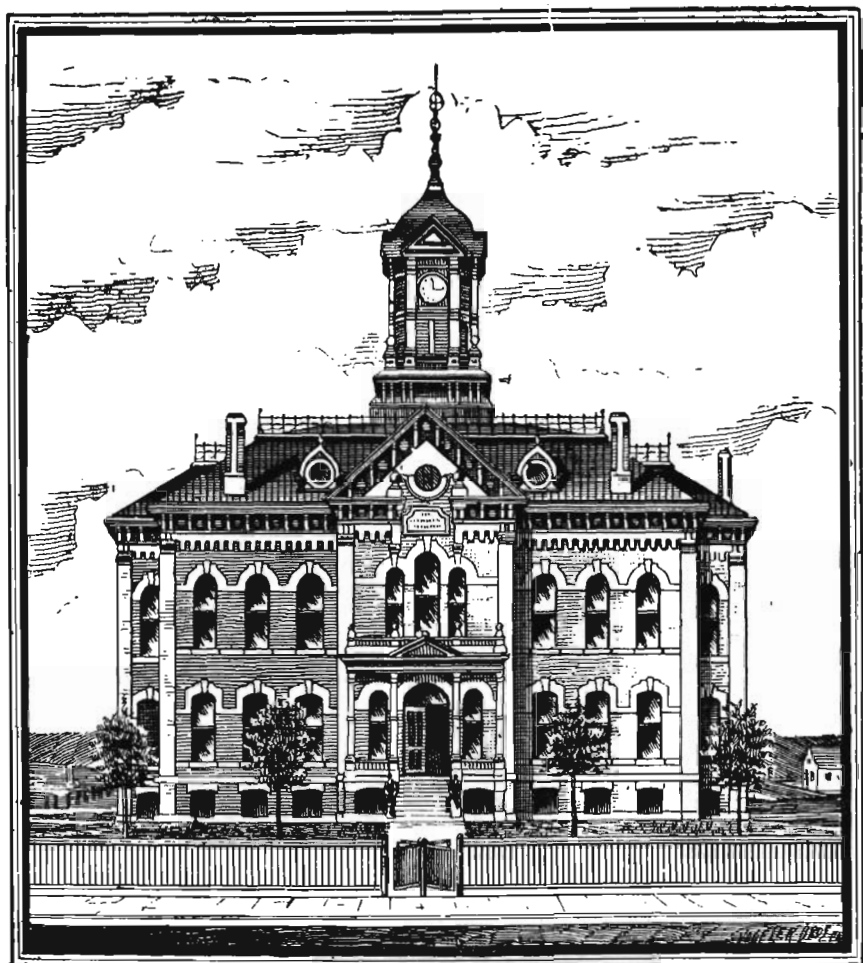
Officers and employees introduced, and their terms of service, included E. W. Stephens, vice president; Mrs. Alice Mullally, secretary 22 years; E. H. Tillman, treasurer, 18 years; Mrs. Thea Harvey, 2 years; Mads Hansen, 26 years; James Purkapile, 4 years; R. G. Strutz, 3 years; James McKay 28 years, George Hurst, 15 years; Arthur Johnson, 13 years, and Archie McKay, 6 years. Frank Craig was introduced as the first salesman of the company. Frank Smith, one of the employees in 1886, was unable to be present.



Photograph by The Miller Studio  
Court House Cost \$130,000 in 1935

## The New Courthouse

At four o'clock yesterday afternoon, at the northeast corner of the old Hughes County Courthouse, now rapidly in the state of being demolished, was carried out a ceremony in connection with the uncover-



Old Hughes County Courthouse

ing and opening of the cornerstone. A crowd of people numbering about one hundred and fifty consisting of school children, business men, young folks and on to the pioneer settlers of the city, watched the sealed tin box as it was opened, and a collection of articles disclosed in a fine state of preservation after the fifty year rest beneath the walls of the structure.

The deposit consisted of four or five newspapers folded neatly and tied with blue ribbons, business cards and quite a collection of coins and trinkets. The historic relics were taken by County Commissioner

Millett and will be displayed to the public in the windows of his grocery store for a few days.

Charles DeLand, attorney and pioneer of this county, made an address, in which he emphasized the importance of the Court House—what it had meant at the time of building to the people of Pierre and Hughes county—the meaning of law and order, and the power exerted by all the courts of our land in carrying out justice. At the conclusion of his speech Dr. Doane Robinson made a few remarks, calling attention to the fact that this building as originally erected had been the finest of its kind in Dakota territory, costing over \$35,000.00. It was planned to have the territorial capital at Pierre and this splendid building was intended at the time to serve as a state house when the contemplated move was made possible. It was pointed out also that our new Courthouse would be modern and up-to-date, in keeping with the present demands of business office structures—and it, too would be a credit to Hughes County and the City of Pierre.

As the crowd dispersed old timers were seen to push through to reminisce over the contents of the precious box—Henry Hausman was an interested onlooker, Mrs. Schubert, Mrs. Glecker, Mace Martin and many others who had actually attended the Cornerstone Laying Ceremony of fifty years ago were telling incidents pursuant to the street parade, speaking program and laying of the stone in September, 1883. One lady said, "There was a large crowd all about the foundation, on what is now the lawn. Only, of course, there was not the semblance of a lawn, as the ground was all cut up and rough. I remember placing a small coin or other object in the box, although for the life of me I do not remember now what it was."—Daily Reminder, July 9, 1934.

## John E. Hipple

John E. Hipple, a prominent representative of Journalistic interest in South Dakota is the well known editor of the *Capital Journal* at Pierre and formerly published several other papers. On July 20, 1865 he was born in the home of Oliver F. and Mary E. Hipple.

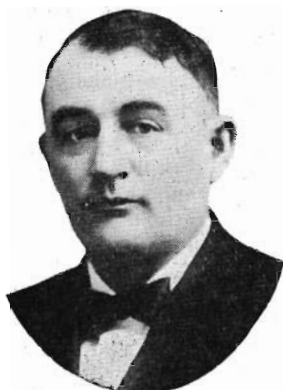
His education was acquired in the common schools and the entire period of his business career has been spent in the *Journalistic field*. He came to Dakota in the winter of 1879, settling in the then Armstrong county, now Hutchinson county.

After engaging in the newspaper business at Parkston he came to Pierre, establishing the State Publishing Co. in 1898, and in 1903, retired from that company and started the Hipple Printing Co., taking over the daily and weekly *Capital Journal* in 1905. His connection with the printing business has included the law publications as well as newspaper and general job printing. On November 11, 1896 in Ashton, S. D., Mr. Hipple was united in marriage to Miss Ruth Bowman, a daughter of S. W. Bowman, who was a pioneer settler of Wisconsin and South Dakota. They have two children, Robert B. and James B., who hold



important positions in the Hipple Printing Co. In 1896 John was elected as State Auditor and made a splendid record in that connection. He is a Mason and has other fraternal connections.

His labors have been of far reaching effect. He has been the Mayor of Pierre since 1924. He was an independent candidate for governor in 1926 and polled 10,637 votes, which demonstrated his popularity. He has never been afraid to voice his convictions and the people of the state have confidence in his integrity and good judgment. He has boundless faith, not only of the possibilities of Pierre, Farm Island and central S. D. but is a tireless booster for the whole state.



Hugh Jaynes

## A Central South Dakota Booster

G. H. Jaynes, 62, pioneer Pierre merchant and outstanding citizen, died at St. Mary's hospital Tuesday evening, June 18, 1935 at 7:10. His death was attributed to a heart attack, brought on by an attack of pleurisy and pneumonia from which he had been suffering for several days.

Grailey Hewitt Jaynes was born in La Monte, Missouri, May 27, 1873, one of the children of Dr. Alfred Thompson Jaynes and his wife Lorinda Jane Gregory Jaynes. His childhood was spent in La Monte and in Miller, S. D., where his father brought his family in territorial days to establish the practice of medicine in the new settlement. He was educated in the schools at Miller, and later attended the newly established Presbyterian college at Pierre, for two years, and a business college in Chicago from which he was graduated.

As a young man he was attracted to the meat marketing business, and was employed in a market at Miller. Later he engaged in the business of cattle buying as an employee of a Sioux City commission firm.

On September 3, 1895, he was married to Caroline A. Bemus at the home of her mother in Olathe, Kansas, and brought his bride to Miller

to establish his home. In June, 1896, the young couple moved to Pierre where Mr. Jaynes had accepted employment in a market run by Frank Price. A few months later he established a market of his own, and since 1896 the Peoples Market has been an established business, and Mr. Jaynes at the time of his death was the senior business man in Pierre.

Mr. Jaynes was a man of tremendous personal strength and energy, and took a leading and active part in every civic and social enterprise. During the capital campaign which resulted in the establishment of the permanent capital of the state at Pierre he worked unceasingly and unselfishly as a member of the committee which had the campaign in charge. He was for several years a member of the city council, and was president of the board of city commissioners and acting mayor of Pierre from May 3, 1909 to May 2, 1910. He was a faithful and constant attendant of the Congregational church, and was a trustee of the church at the time of his death. He was one of the early sponsors of the project for building a new church building for the congregation, and contributed liberally of his time, money, and energy to bringing about its completion. He took a personal pride in the splendid appearance of the new edifice, and a personal satisfaction in his own contribution to it.

He is survived by his widow and three sons, Hewitt, Edwin and Alfred.

—Capital Journal.

## Homer Partridge

Homer Partridge came to Pierre from Dennison, Iowa, in January, 1907, and on March 6th of that same year, opened the clothing store which now bears his name. During the first year following the opening of the store, Mr. Partridge was associated in partnership with Milton McCahren, also of Dennison, Iowa, and at the end of the first year Mr. Partridge bought out Mr. McCahren's interest in the business and became the sole owner and proprietor. Within the next three years, Mr. Partridge had increased his business and stock to such an extent that it was necessary for him to enlarge his store, which he did, until it occupied the same amount of store space in which it is now located.

During the thirty years of consecutively operating a business in Pierre, Mr. Partridge has consistently handled standard merchandise in his store, and a policy of honesty and courtesy has been carried out by him at all times.—Capital Journal, April 8, 1937.

## Pierre Resident has Valuable Gun Thought Made Made Before 1803

Al Hildebrandt, Pierre resident for 45 years, has in his possession a valuable gun, he discovered recently when gun experts examined the piece.

In examining the markings on the gun under a microscope, it was found that it was made in London between 1745 and 1803, and is a King George V piece. The guild number, the owner's initials, J. M., his company number, 3, are plainly seen on the barrel. The stock is missing. Also are to be seen five notches cut into the barrel.

The gun was taken to Mr. Hildebrandt by a couple of boys who found it on the hillside near the city. How it came there is a matter of conjecture. The value of the gun, from the point of its antiquity, was placed anywhere from \$1,500 to \$2,500.

Hildebrandt has another valuable gun in his collection—a target pistol once owned by Calamity Jane, the woman scout and freighter of the gold rush days. She became ill in Pierre, and Hildebrandt befriended her. When she returned to Deadwood, her gratitude was so great that she went out and dug up the old gun, which she had buried with her pet dog, and sent it to Hildebrandt.

## Pierre Parks

A number of progressive East Pierreites have arranged to get title to the block of ground south of the East Pierre fire house, which they expect to turn over to the city for park purposes and playground. This property originally was platted by the East Pierre promoters for park, but city administration influence was not attracted to East Pierre in early days, and later the ground was platted and sold as town lots. Now it is proposed to make it a park and play ground, and a good start will be made this year. The mayor has agreed to portion a lot of available trees to help plant this tract, and with the new schoolhouse construction on a block joining this block on one corner, it will provide a close connection for school children to enjoy some of the play ground facilities. This is a good start for something that the city needs much more than has been provided for.

With the terrible slaughter of children by automobiles in the cities throughout the country, it is being realized more and more every day that local communities need to give more attention and great consideration to child welfare in providing parks and play grounds. This block in East Pierre will be a very progressive step for the city as a whole, and especially the citizens in that section of Pierre.

—Capital Journal, 1936.

## Meeting of Pioneers

Dr. T. F. Riggs and his father left yesterday for Lac Qui Parle, Minnesota, where the Minnesota State Historical Society in an anniversary program is to honor pioneer white settlers. This town, or settlement, as it was in the olden days, is the birthplace of Rev. Thomas Riggs. Mrs. Riggs is already there.

—Daily Reminder, June 12, 1935.

## Folks We Should Know

Dr. Thomas L. Riggs

Dr. Riggs was born in Lac Qui Parle, Minnesota, on June 3, 1847. He graduated from Chicago Theological Seminary in 1872 and was ordained to the Congregational ministry the same year. He was superintendent of Congregational Indian Missions on Sioux Reservations west of the Missouri River until 1919. He was the first president of the South Dakota Historical Association where he still holds membership. His home is at Oahe where he is still interested and active at the age of 87.

*Mr. Riggs is one of our fine old South Dakota pioneers.*

Oahe Chapel was built in 1877 (ti tonka Oha, meaning the place of the great council house). The lumber and hardware for the chapel came from Sioux City by steamboat. It was unloaded on the cut bank about a mile from the place it was to be used and hauled that distance by oxen. General Charles Howard who was visiting that year at Oahe helped build the chapel.

—(Extract from "My County," by Jean Riggs, Oahe, S. Dak.)

## Pioneer South Dakota Bullwhacker Dies In Nebraska

Belden, Neb.—James Rabdau, 76, last of the bullwhackers and one of the most colorful figures in this territory died in his home of heart trouble following a stroke.

Prospector, cattleman and bullwhacker, Mr. Rabdau had made and lost several good sized fortunes since coming to the middlewest as a lad of nine from Malone, N. Y., where he was born November 8, 1860.

Mr. Rabdau, of French and Scotch descent, lived with his brother, an army officer stationed at Pierre, S. D., after he moved west until he was about 16 when he started "whacking" long trains of bulls. Then he entered the cattle business for himself and rounded up and drove herds down into old Mexico.

Mr. Rabdau was married November 13, 1886, at Pierre to Miss Kathryn Griesel of Belden. They celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in 1936.

Survivors include two daughters, Mrs. H. J. Strief of Dallas, Tex., and Mrs. Forrest Most, of Laurel, Neb., 14 grand children and two great-grand children.—Blunt Advocate.

## The Breeden Family

In 1888 James K. Breeden, a resident of Illinois who had been judge of the Probate court of Douglas county for some years and was then states attorney, made a business trip to Pierre.

This visit resulted in an investment in a number of Pierre's desirable building lots. In 1890 Judge Breeden brought his family and made

a three week's stay at the then new Locke Hotel, investing still further in Pierre property and making many friends. This visit resulted two years later in the family becoming permanent residents of South Dakota by taking a homestead in Stanley County, when the reservation was open to settlement, making substantial improvements there and establishing a sheep ranch. This land borders the Missouri river four miles above Fort Pierre.

Judge Breeden planted the first acre of alfalfa grown in Stanley county and built the first stone and earth dam across a draw in the West River country for the purpose of watering stock. Stockmen regarded this as the solution of a serious problem and came from all parts of the range to see the construction. After five years of homesteading a government patent to the land was secured and the Breedens removed to Pierre in 1897 where they built the home they still occupy on upper Euclid avenue, Judge Breeden resuming the practice of law.

The Breedens, with other loyal citizens, gave much personal service in behalf of Pierre in locating the permanent capital of South Dakota. Soon after settling in Pierre, Judge Breeden was elected county judge of Hughes county which position he continued to hold for a number of terms. For some years he was a member of the Pierre city council and also a trustee of the Congregational Church Society. Of late years he has retired from active business to enjoy the comfort and freedom to which his well spent life of 93 years entitles him.

Mrs. Breeden has rendered service to the social and public life of Stanley and Hughes counties and to the state of South Dakota, being a charter member of the first ladies aid society in Stanley county and an early member of the Aid society of the Congregational Church in Pierre. She continues as vice-president of the Dickens Club, the first literary club organized in Pierre in 1889. Mrs. Breeden was a charter member of the Round Table which dissolved to reorganize at the same meeting in April, 1899, as the Womans Club of Pierre, in which club she was an officer and active member for thirty years. When the South Dakota Federation of Womans Clubs was incorporated Mrs. Breeden was chairman of the committee in charge.

The first letter written to Andrew Carnegie presenting the need of a public library for Pierre was written by Mrs. Breeden. The reply to this letter was encouraging and was the foundation for the organization of the Womans Book Club which sponsored the library project and induced the city fathers to meet the required terms.

During the campaigns for woman suffrage Mrs. Breeden was a member of influential legislative committees and for years was superintendent of suffrage publicity carried by the state press.

The three children of the family are graduates of Pierre High School. The daughter, Marjorie, graduated as the first woman lawyer from the law department of the State University. After assisting in her father's law office for some years, she is now devoting her attention to main-

taining the family home and managing a commercial flower garden, known as Cedar Hedge Gardens.

Harold Rooker graduated with a B. A. from Beloit College and at present is superintendent of concrete construction work for a large contracting company with headquarters at Compton, California.

James Reue, after some years of farming, attended the University of Minnesota, graduating as a bridge engineer, and is now in charge of public work for a contracting firm in Kentucky of which firm he is a member.

—Jane R. Breeden.

Note: Mr. Breeden joined the realm of the departed on May 7, 1937

## Our Mail Carriers

Tonight, January 31st, ends thirty years of service for A. L. Hegg-lund and Guy Kelley as mail carriers for the local free delivery service. On December 1st next, A. G. Hengel will have completed thirty years. A. J. Nelson joined the force five years later. There has been no change in the personnel of carriers since the delivery service started thirty years ago. This is a remarkable record and the people of Pierre are to be congratulated on the result of this record. It is doubtful whether another city of this size and importance has a similar record to present. The reliability of the carriers' work has given the community such dependable service, that people simply expect their mail as certain as the hours move on in time. These men deserve the appreciation of both the government and the citizens. It is a striking example of what real civil service means. During the same period, five different postmasters, S. G. Dewell, J. E. Hipple, J. B. Binder, James Holm, and F. S. Williams, have been in charge.

—Capital Journal, January 31, 1935.

## Post Office History

Old-timers of Pierre and Hughes county will, perhaps, stop and reminisce of days gone by as the time grows nearer for Fred Williams' day of retiring from the position as postmaster of the Pierre post office.

Williams started working in the post office when a young man just out of high school, in 1894, as clerk. After three years he was appointed assistant postmaster and served in this position for 25 years under the regime of four different postmasters. In August 1923 he was appointed acting postmaster and December 18, 1923 received his commission as postmaster. April 27, the day of his retirement, he will have completed 13 years service as postmaster, and 42 years continual service in the post office.

Because his is an involuntary retirement, Williams has a choice of accepting a pension immediately or accepting a position as assistant

postmaster in some post office, and waiting nine years for his retirement pension to take effect. What he plans to do is not known at present.

Williams has seen the volume of business grow until it has become necessary to employ 16 men and 4 janitors, instead of the three people originally hired, consisting of a postmaster, assistant postmaster and one clerk. He has seen receipts increase from \$200 monthly to an average of \$8,000. Williams also helped move the equipment from the old building, now occupied by the Hipple Printing Co., to the new federal building in 1906.

Who will be appointed to fill the vacancy left by Williams is not known.

—Daily Reminder, February, 1936

(Later Randolph Y. Bagby was appointed to fill the vacancy.)

## Fox's Who's Who Among South Dakotans

OLANDER, J. FRED, publisher; b. Greenbay, Wis., Oct. 7, 1871; s. Jonas and Mary C. (Olund) O.; ed. grad. Nat'l. Normal U., Lebanon, Ohio, 1893; m. Grace E. Vermilya; ch. Royal Dwight, July 13, 1900; Theodore Edward, Sept. 21, 1906; Grace Rosalyn, May 5, 1913; Mary Faith, Febr. 13, 1915; J. Fred, Jr., Febr. 21, 1920. Co. Supt. of Schools, Brookings County, 1903-7. Chairman South Dakota board of teachers examiners, 1907-10. Sec'y. S. D. Ed. Assn., 1903-10. Publisher and editor, Stratford, Iowa, Courier, 1892-8. School book publisher, 1910-29. Repub. Meth. Mason (32, Shrine). Home: Pierre, now at home in Sioux Falls. He came to Hughes County on July 4, 1907.

## Bill Smith

Biscuit-burning brides might do well to know Bill Smith, genial statehouse cafe proprietor.

Although Bill has been dishing out coffee and doughnuts to statehouse employees for 20 years, that is not the limit to his culinary background. Born into a family of French, Negro and American ancestry, Smith came by his cooking tastes naturally. When a young man his kitchen abilities were utilized by steamship companies and when the Spanish American war broke out he cooked for the U. S. Army. There he made the acquaintance of John Jordon who shot the first cannon in the Manila Bay battle under Dewey, and they became friends.

Since then Bill Smith became the chief chef on a special train for Rock Island officials, serving as many as 35 millionaires at once. He traveled all over the country on the private dining car and later served a special train of Shriners from Des Moines to their California convention.

His annual elk, deer, raccoon and game bird dinners for statehouse officials and newspapermen are legend.

—Daily Reminder, June 12, 1935.

## Max Kehr Funeral Tuesday Afternoon

Max J. Kehr, 63, well known Pierre merchant and prominent business man, passed away shortly before noon last Saturday from the effects of a bullet wound in his head, presumably self inflicted.

He was born October 1, 1872, at Watertown, Wis. He moved to Pierre when eight years old. He received his education here and also attended the Spencerian college at Milwaukee.

After the death of his father, Louis Kehr, he continued working in the store that his father had formerly operated.

He was married to Miss Bertha Hazen of this city at Chadron, Neb., October 28, 1910, and moved shortly afterward to Indiana where they remained for some time, and returned to Pierre to join in operating the Pioneer Store with his father. Besides his wife, his mother also survives him.

He had been complaining of ill health for some time and accompanied by his wife had spent several weeks at Hot Springs, Arkansas, recuperating. He had returned recently to Pierre still despondent.

The funeral services will be held tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Pierre Baptist church. The body will be shipped Wednesday morning to Sunman, Indiana, where burial will be made. The nearest relatives are residing at Milwaukee, who will probably attend the funeral services in Indiana.

—April 13, 1936, Daily Dakotan.

## Borst Tells Story

Billie Borst yesterday related a trip he made in April, 1878, trucking from Bismarck to the Hills and back again and down to Pierre. On April 10 that year there was more than a foot of snow and the water in creeks was so deep they could not make crossing for a day or more at a time. They took a load of kerosene, or coal oil, as it was then called, to Deadwood, and that commodity commanded a price of \$10 a gallon. That much for whiskey does not sound unreasonable, but \$10 for plain kerosene was great, but that was the regular price and everybody paid it. Billie has seen more range life and grass growing than probably all the guys who are warming up dope on planning boards and relief organizations combined. He never did favor breaking up the prairie, but he gives these smart guys a loud laugh when it comes to the proposition of not getting range grass again. He admits the buffalo grass will have a hard time to come back, but predicts that there will be wheat grass tall enough to lose some of the political forecasters who are planning recovery.

—Capital Journal, 1935.

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Billy Borst was 17 when he came here the last of April, 1877, from Worthington, Minn. Henry Davis and brothers maintained a wagon train from there to the Hills. Borst gave \$15 for a ride to Pierre at



that time. When they reached Pierre one of the drivers, an old soldier got cold feet and quit. His name was McLean and he caught a boat going down the river. Billy took his place as driver and Deadwood was reached on May 17. Large flakes of snow fell there that day. Hay was selling at \$180 per ton, flour \$22 per 100 pounds and bacon 30c per lb.

Henry Davis started a store at Central City in the Hills. Green coffee was more common than the roasted.

Two men and a woman were killed west of Bear Butte by the Indians; they were trying to leave the Hills and go to Bismarck. Calamity Jane ran a rooming house in Elizabethtown, a suburb of Deadwood. She was a generous old sport. Stage coaches were often robbed.

In 1883 I went home to Sioux Falls for a visit. I was hired to manage a large ranch for the Dakota Cattle Co. on the Cheyenne river, which I did for 5 years; then I engaged in the cattle business for myself and sold out in 1928.

—Billy Borst, Pierre

## Paoli Bianchi's Reminiscences

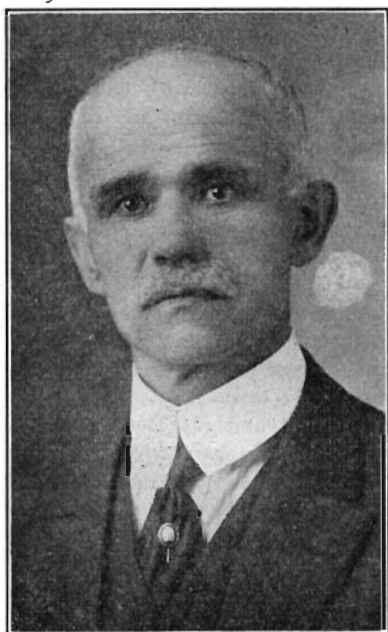
By His Daughter Katie

On September, 1880 I came down the river on the ferryboat from Bismarck, N. D., and landed at Fort Pierre. My partner and I stayed at Ft. Pierre over night at what was then known as Sherwood Hotel. Next morning we bought a wheel barrow for \$6.50 and with our few belongings we came across the river and landed down at what is now City Park. We camped there for a few days. Then I moved up to a building that was located down near where the Creamery now stands and started a bakery.

There weren't many buildings here. Just a dance hall and saloons along the river front. There was no law or order. I remember one incident in which the out-law Arkansas Joe was ordered to stay away from here. He left but returned and a crowd of men attacked him near the river and shot him nine times. They wanted me to go with them but I was just putting bread in the oven so they borrowed my gun.

In the spring of 1881 the flood came up to my building so I moved out with my dog and gun, walking to the hills. I carried two sacks of bread along. The women and children were taken care of at Meyer's Brewery, which was located in the west end of town. We had little to eat and there was no way to get food in here. We might have starved if two soldiers had not arrived from Ft. Lincoln with two barrels of salt pork. This was divided among the people and we managed until other supplies arrived. Such was life in the early days.

Note: Mr. Bianchi was an Italian by nationality and a Catholic by faith. He had strong religious convictions which he divulged to friends especially during his later years. The children were Adele, Florence, Katie, Clementine and Henry.



"Tony" Hengel

HENGEL, ANTHONY D., merchant; b. in Luxemburg, 1857; s. Dominick and Anna (Arnoldy) H.; ed. grad. from High School, 1873, second prize; m. Susan Lehnertz; ch. Josephine; Albert; Edward; Francis; Louis; Mary; Marguerite. Came to America, 1874; located in Pierre, 1883. Began clothing business with J. C. Hilger & Co., 1883; now proprietor of the Tony Clothing Co. Has been councilman and acting mayor of Pierre. Mem. bd. of ed., 15 yrs. (past pres.). Pres. 1st. Nat'l Bank, 1922—. Dem. Catholic, K. C., C. O. F. Died Dec. 11, 1928. His widow still resides in Pierre.

Fox's Who's Who Among South Dakotans.

## An Early Arrival

My first view of Pierre, was early in October, 1883. I had walked in from a homestead in western Sully county on Sunday, a trip of twenty-five miles. Met an old man a couple of miles north of Snake Butte. Asked him if I could see Pierre from the top of the hill, and he assured me that I could. But there was no view of Pierre until the hill where the reservoir now is was reached. Outside of a very few houses along the strip where the Catholic church is, the town was largely below the railway tracks, which are the freight tracks now.

In fact most of the business section was on Pierre Street below Dakota avenue, and along Missouri avenue. There were many vacant lots between Dakota avenue and Sioux avenue. About where the Morton Bakery now is was a "bunk tent" with bunks ranged against the side of the tent walls, these supplied with hay and blankets for those who wanted a cheap night's lodging.

The Missouri avenue section was the "red light" section and was strung along that street for about four blocks. In the line of business at that time were many saloons, scattered generously over town. A greater number of saloons than any other one class of business representation in the town.

The Northwestern Transportation company started Concord Coaches each morning from their headquarters where the Texaco station, is located on the corner of Sioux Avenue and Fort Street, and that was one of the busy locations of the town. Hotels stood where the Ford garage now is. The Northwestern and the Reed House where the Red Owl store now is located.

The principal hotel of the town was the Wells House in East Pierre, which was later torn down and the lumber used in other buildings about town. There was practically as much business along Dakota Avenue in East Pierre at that time as there was in the down town section, but that faded out soon afterward.

The freight outfits driving bull trains to the Hills would come in and if a delegation from Fort Sully happened in at the same time, there was generally plenty of excitement along Missouri avenue for the time that the conflicting forces were both in town and that was not an infrequent occurrence.

—Steve Travis.

## Greenough Store Opened Here 1884

The Greenough Hardware, for more than half a century one of the leading hardware stores in Pierre, was established in Pierre in 1884, in the first Well's addition, by Louis and John Greenough. The Store continued for four years as a partnership concern in what is now East Pierre, and at the end of that time John Greenough left Pierre to open a hardware store in Missoula, Montana, and Louis continued on in the store alone. Soon after 1888, the Greenough Hardware was moved to the east side of what is now Pierre street, in the location occupied by the Montgomery Ward building. Nine years later, Mr. Greenough purchased the building in which the store is now located, and then for thirty-five years, until the time of his death in 1932, Mr. Greenough served Pierre and the wide territory surrounding with hardware merchandise.

Mr. Louis Greenough, as a young man, came to Omaha, Nebraska, from Massachusetts, where he had been occupied as a tinsmith. He accepted a position with the Milton Rodgers Company of Omaha, but stayed there only a short time because he felt Pierre to be a better

location with more advantages. And so, in 1884, Mr. Greenough came to Pierre where he resided until the time of his death.

The interests of the man were multiple, and aside from his business, he served on the city commission for many years. It was Mr. Greenough, who in the early stages of the development of our municipal utilities, worked with great zeal, for he realized that Pierre without a city water, light and power system, would become little more than a trading post. He believed an educational system in Pierre to be of prime importance, and strived honestly and sincerely as a member of the school board, to educate the children as well as conveniences of that time would permit.

Mr. Greenough was farsighted enough to realize that the "horseless" carriage would develop into more than an object of curiosity in a short time, and together with Mr. Henry W. Adams, had such a vehicle made in the early nineties, with the idea in mind that a bus route could be maintained between Pierre and Rapid City. The vehicle, which was the fifth in the world and the fourth in the United States, and the first west of Chicago, created no little concern all over the state. It was displayed at Yankton but under no circumstances would the city officials consent to letting it be driven down the street. The same thing occurred in Mitchell, when Mr. Adams and Mr. Greenough passed through, and they were forced to stay outside the city limits.

Mr. Greenough died at the age of 79 in 1932. He was a firm believer in the future of this community and an incessant worker for the welfare of Pierre.

Since the death of Mr. Greenough the store has been under the active management of Mr. James Cox, a son-in-law.

—Marion Holst in Capital Journal.

## Dr. O. N. Hoyt

O. N. Hoyt was born in Canada just over the line from Maine, on May 2, 1844. He later moved to West Union, Iowa and acted as County Superintendent there. He took up the study of medicine at the Rush Medical School and after completing his course went to Duluth, Minn. In August, 1889 he established himself in Pierre. In 1886 he married Cassie R. Rhodes. A son, Fred, has a family living in Pierre; another son, Harry, resides in northern Stanley county.

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Word was received in Pierre today announcing the death Friday of Dr. O. N. Hoyt, 90, at his home in Long Beach, California. Dr. Hoyt was one of the pioneer Pierre physicians and left for California to make his home after retiring from practice here nearly twenty years ago.

Funeral services will be held Sunday afternoon at Long Beach.

Dr. and Mrs. Hoyt lived in Pierre for many years where they were greatly loved and respected. He had a large practice and Mrs. Hoyt was his assistant. For many years "The Hoyts" as they were affec-

tionally known, were a tower of strength and confidence to their patients. He was a splendid type of the old old time family physician. No night was ever too dark or stormy; the river was never too rough, or the weather too cold for Doctor Hoyt and his good wife to respond to a call for help. During the influenza epidemic, although he had practically retired from active practice, Doctor Hoyt worked day and night and never lost a case. He was proud of his record of more than forty years' obstetrical practice and never the loss of a mother in childbirth.

After retiring from practice, Dr. and Mrs. Hoyt removed to Long Beach, California, where they have made their home. Many people in Pierre have reason to remember Dr. Hoyt with gratitude, love and respect and the Capital-Journal adds its tribute of high regard and sympathy. It was a long and a useful life; lived in the best traditions of his calling. It can be truthfully said of him "He loved his neighbor as himself."

The Doctor died December 27, 1932.—Capital Journal.

## Mrs. Hoyt, A Useful Helpmate

Word was received in Pierre today of the death of Mrs. Cassie R. Hoyt, wife of Dr. O. N. Hoyt, who for many years was a practicing physician in Pierre in early days.

Mrs. Hoyt enjoyed the distinction of having a large circle of admiring friends in Pierre and was a woman deeply interested in community welfare, and many persons enjoyed the results of her interest and assistance during the days that the family were residents of this city. Her death occurred at the home of her sister, Mrs. Rozell, in Des Moines, Iowa.

After leaving Pierre the Hoyts resided in California but the worthy lady always kept in close touch with her intimate friends in this city, as well as the family of Fred Hoyt, son of the pioneer doctor. She was a typical character of the early day people, who had great faith and confidence in Pierre development and growth, and likewise a good example of the sterling womanhood that marked the many matrons who helped establish an atmosphere of good community spirit and progressive provisions for the younger generation, who have since grown to mature manhood and womanhood.

Having lived a good life, she unquestionably is reaping the reward to do a good service in the spirit world where she joined her husband who preceded her to the great beyond.—Capital Journal, 1936.

## Pat Kane Dies at St. Mary's Hospital

Known By Practically Everyone Who Visited St. Mary's Hospital

Pat Kane passed away at St. Mary's hospital yesterday morning at 6:20 o'clock after having been confined for over twenty-three years at the hospital with arthritis and other complications. He had complained

for a few days before his death of a bad cold and sore chest. Physicians reported that he had often times complained of his heart. He was fifty-eight years old.

Twenty-three years ago, October 23, 1913, Pat was brought to St. Mary's hospital from his home at De Smet with a bad attack of arthritis. Since that time the afflicted became crippled and unable to walk and has been under the care of the Sisters at the hospital as a personal case.

He was born October 6, 1878, and made his home near De Smet where he was employed as a laborer and farmer up to the time of his affliction.

He is survived by a sister, Mrs. John Callaghan of Bison, a brother, and also a niece, Mrs. A. L. Erickson, of Minneapolis.

Services will probably be conducted Wednesday morning at the hospital and the body will be shipped to De Smet to be buried in the family lot there.

Pat, without doubt, was visited by more people than any patient ever in this hospital.

—Daily Dakotan, March 15, 1937.

## Jim Lewis, City Pioneer, Dies at Hospital Tuesday

James Lewis, pioneer Pierre mechanic and gunsmith, died at St. Mary's hospital this morning of pneumonia, after an illness of several days. He was 78 years old, having been born in Indiana in July, 1858.

In his youth he took up the machinists trade, and was employed in railroad shops in Illinois. In 1874 he was married to Miss Emma Phillips, at Bismarck, Illinois. A few years later he moved to Dakota territory, and in 1887 came from Madison in this state to Pierre, where he has since lived.

As a youth he was attracted by firearms and while engaged as a machinist began repairing guns for his acquaintances. He became acquainted with several noted gunsmiths, among them the late John Browning, of Ogden, Utah, inventor of the automatic rifles and light machine guns used by the American army during the World War. Upon coming to Dakota Mr. Lewis gave most of his time to practice of the gunsmith's art, and quickly became known throughout the central west as an expert in his profession.

During recent years he has not been as active as formerly, but up to the time of his last illness he still maintained a small shop to which he devoted a part of his time each day in working upon firearms sent to him for repair.

He is survived by Mrs. Lewis and four children, Jack and Emma Lewis, of Chicago, Mrs. Loren Christy, of Okobojo, and Mrs. Joe Riedl, of Dickinson, North Dakota.

—Capital Journal, Jan. 28, 1936.

Note: Jim was proud of the fact that he never voted.

## Prominent Pioneer Passes

Judge Loring E. Gaffy, one of the prominent pioneers and professional men of Dakota and South Dakota, passed peacefully away at his home on Prospect avenue this morning, February 20.

Judge Gaffy was born in Clinton county, New York, January 12, 1850. The family moved to Wisconsin where Mr. Gaffy received a high school education and later a commercial college training, after which he read law with Judge Drury in Fon du Lac, Wisconsin. In 1871 he moved to Nebraska and was admitted to practice in the Nebraska courts. Later rumors of gold discoveries and excitement of settlers going in to the Black Hills enticed Mr. Gaffy to go to Deadwood, where he arrived in June, 1877. After practicing law in territorial courts from 1877 to 1884, he returned to Hughes county, for a time residing in Blunt, and later being elected state's attorney of Hughes county, in which capacity he served from 1889 to 1893. In 1894, following the death of Judge Bennett of the state supreme court, which resulted in the advancement of Judge Fuller, then circuit judge, to the supreme bench, Governor Sheldon appointed Judge Gaffy circuit judge for the sixth judicial circuit, in which position he served from 1894 to 1906. Desiring to engage in private practice of his profession again, Judge Gaffy formed a partnership with L. L. Stephens, now general attorney for the Standard Oil Company of Indiana, which partnership remained until Judge Gaffy accepted the position of president of the First National Life Insurance company in 1912, which position he held until that company was consolidated with the Continental Life Insurance company of St. Louis. Later he continued to practice law to some extent, but for many years he has lived a retired life.

Mr. Gaffy was a man of pronounced opinions but always a determined defender of public right and welfare. He was an ardent and active republican in his early life, and up until the time of his retirement he was a dependable supporter of his party ticket, state and national. Judge Gaffy was brought in close contact with many of the active happenings in the Black Hills and the early settlement of Hughes county and the building of Pierre.

One boy, an adopted child, Floyd, was the only child of the family circle when adopted with his former deceased wife. Floyd grew up in Pierre and later moved to Montana, where he was accidentally killed some years ago.

Mr. Gaffy was a true and characteristic representative of the old time gentleman, always alert to take part in any undertaking that was for the good of his friends or the community. His friends were numbered by the thousands during his more than fifty years residence in the Black Hills and central South Dakota. His passing even at the ripe old age of 86 years, will remind a host of friends of the former days when he was one of the dependable and reliable friends and citizens. His death takes one more of the outstanding pioneer characters of Pierre and Hughes county.—Capital Journal, Feb. 20, 1936.

## Recollections

When invited to contribute an article for publication pertaining to the history of Hughes County, my first thought was to cover the period from 1883 to 1887, when I resided in Blunt; upon reflection I decided to describe only two outstanding events that occurred in 1884 and 1885. One a tragedy that shocked the morals of the community, the other that materially retarded the development of Eastern Hughes County, I might say paralyzing the business interests of Harrold, Blunt and Canning.

The tragedy has to do with the murder of Forest G. Small and the lynching of James H. Bell.

Small and Bell were young lawyers in Harrold. I was acquainted with both of them. A woman arrived in Harrold, said to have come from Chicago; she was accompanied by a girl. They became acquainted with Bell. After a time the older woman visited Bell's office and a controversy arose, the woman charging Bell with having insulted or assaulted the girl. Bell resisted her demand, and ordered her from his office, she attacked him and in defending himself he assaulted her with a hatchet. He was arrested upon complaint of the woman, who charged him with assault with a deadly weapon. He was arraigned before Justice Jas. V. Houtz in Blunt. I was present at the hearing. Bell was defended in that hearing by Small, and his defense was that the woman had attempted to blackmail him, and that what he did was in self defense. I do not recall whether he was discharged or bound over. This happened during the middle or earlier part of 1884.

Later Small was employed by a client who possessed a note and mortgage, which it was believed were forgeries committed by Bell. This caused him to become unfriendly and bitter towards Small. In December Small sued Bell to recover for his services in connection with having defended him in the criminal case before referred to. The summons was issued by Justice Houtz of Blunt. On the day set for trial, Bell left Harrold driving his horse and buggy, accompanied by one Bennett. Small soon followed on horse back. When about half way between Harrold and Blunt, Bell turned his horse around going back until he met Small. He asked him to stop and suggested that they settle the matter in controversy, which was finally compromised by Bell agreeing to pay fifteen dollars to Small and each to pay one half of the costs. Small had dismounted from his horse, and Bell and Bennett were out of the buggy. Small stepped to the side of the buggy, to write a receipt on the seat of the buggy, when from behind he was struck a blow by Bell with a hatchet that fractured the skull. To make sure that he had killed his victim, Bell chopped both sides of Small's throat, producing a copious flow of blood. When certain that Small was dead, with the assistance of Bennett, the body was lifted into the buggy, Bell getting in beside it, Bennett mounting Small's horse and they proceeded towards the Northwest for a distance of possibly two miles, across the



Hughes County line into Sully County. At the Southwest corner of a quarter section, where a few acres had been broken, they drove on the west section line to the north for several rods, keeping off from the breaking. From the place where they stopped, they removed Small's body from the buggy and carried it a few yards onto the breaking, and there dug a grave, burying Small. They then proceeded to a nearby lake and washed the blood out of the buggy and went on to Blunt. Bell called upon Justice Houtz, told him of the settlement with Small, and that each was to pay one half of the costs of the suit, and he paid his half and the case was dismissed. Later in the day Bell is supposed to have returned to Harrold, but Bennett, following the instructions of Bell went to Pierre. The following day he sold Small's horse, saddle and bridle in Fort Pierre, leaving Pierre the next morning to return to Harrold by train. Upon his arrival at Harrold he was met by Bell, at the station, and told to go on to some distant place. He proceeded to a ranch near Bismarck where he secured employment. It was not long when it was published in the newspapers, that a warrant had been issued by a United States Court Commissioner in Huron, upon a complaint filed against Small upon the charge of having committed some crime in connection with land entries. This report was generally accepted as true, as accounting for Small's disappearance. Small's aged father was a Congregational minister, residing at Onida; he would not believe that his son had committed any crime and was confident that he was either the victim of an accident or of foul play. He was unable to enlist any direct aid, though he had the sympathy of those he approached. All of this happened in December, 1884.

George W. Harris had been elected Sheriff in November; Rev. Small appealed to him to become interested in the matter; Harris was naturally big hearted and sympathetic towards anyone in distress, and he assured Mr. Small when he entered upon his duties upon January 1, he would make a careful and thorough investigation. This he proceeded to do. His first contact was a resident of Harrold by the name of Parks, who made a confession, in which he stated that he had been employed by Bell to go to Huron, and file a complaint before the United States Court Commissioner, charging Small as above stated, and that he was paid by Bell in addition to his expenses the sum of ten dollars. He indicated a spirit of repentance and volunteered to be of assistance to the sheriff in his investigation.

His offer was accepted and he was directed to locate Bennett, and to join him; this Parks did, went to the ranch where Bennett was employed, secured employment on the same ranch. Several weeks elapsed when Parks reported to Sheriff Harris, he was satisfied Bennett not only knew what had happened to Small, but that he was actually involved. Mr. Harris at once sent his chief deputy, J. L. Barck to Bismarck, with instructions to arrest both Bennett and Parks and charge them with the murder of Small; this was done, they were handcuffed together and brought to Pierre. Sheriff Harris met the party at Forest City; by the time they arrived in Pierre, or during the evening a full confession was

secured from Bennett, in which he related all of the horrible details of Small's murder, and told as near as he could describe the place where the body was buried. Harris communicated with his deputy at Blunt, H. A. Chase and told him the substance of Bennett's confession, and where Small's body might be found. Chase invited me to accompany him, this was the morning after the confession. I did so. Arriving in the locality indicated by Bennett, we made a careful search, covering quite a radius, without finding what we were seeking. In order to see about more readily we mounted the roof of an abandoned sod shack; as we looked towards the Northwest we saw approaching at some distance a cavalcade; from the Southeast a similar number, and both groups reached us about the same time. One was comprised of persons from Pierre and Blunt, the other from Harrold. Sheriff Harris and his deputy, Barck, were among those from Pierre, and they had in their custody Bennett. The latter, without any hesitation very willingly explained where he thought the body of Small could be found and he led to what proved to be the particular tract; he was somewhat confused because he stated in December there was a shack on the land, if there was such a shack at that time it had been removed; the breaking had been cultivated and sown into wheat. The crowd, some with shovels or spades scattered, and where there appeared on the surface any subsoil, it was investigated.

There were many such evidences as the result of gophers. Suddenly there was a shout, and the crowd gathered at the place from which it emanated. The first thing that was unearthed was a red felt mitten. Bennett remarked "that is Bell's mitten." Upon hearing what he said I spoke to Sheriff Harris, under my breath, and suggested that he get Bennett away. The digging proceeded when an under coat was found; it contained in the pockets letters and papers addressed to Bell. A little further appeared an ordinary comforter or bed spread. This was removed exposing Small's body in a perfect state of preservation and he was easily recognizable. With this disclosure the crowd almost simultaneously fell back with an exclamation, that I will not repeat, referring to Bennett; by this time Deputy Barck was forty rods away driving fast towards Blunt, with Bennett as a passenger; had Bennett been present nothing, in my opinion, could have saved him from the fury of the crowd. It was important that Bennett be kept alive in order to be a witness to prove the guilt of Bell.

I happened to be a Justice of the Peace, and in the absence of the Coroner, under the law had authority to act. The body of Small was taken up and removed to Blunt, at my direction, where an inquest was held. One of the hardest duties I ever have performed was escorting the aged and broken hearted father of Small into viewing the body of his son that he might identify it. He recognized him at once and pointed out one or two marks on the body to confirm his identification.

When Bennett and Parks were arrested, Bell was taken into custody and confined in the jail at Pierre. He retained as his counsel L.

E. Gaffy who had located recently in Blunt, and also Walter C. Fawcett, of Pierre. (Mr. Gaffy was the late Judge Gaffy).

Within a short time after what I have just related, one evening there was a rumor in Blunt, that a party had arrived from Harrold or was en-route, with the intention of going to Pierre to lynch Bell. The rumor proved to be true. The Blunt telegraph operator could not be found; there was no long distance telephones at that time. It was believed that the telegraph operator had been requested from Harrold not to be available. Mr. Gaffy was in Pierre at the time, but his local partner was in Blunt. Hearing of the rumor he went to the livery stable, where the firm had a horse and buggy, intending to harness the horse and go to Pierre. He was approached by some of the Harrold party and ordered not to take the horse out of the barn, and to remain in Blunt. The lawyer then sought deputy sheriff Chase and appealed to him to go to Pierre to protect Bell. He did not offer to accompany Mr. Chase and declined to do so. Again Chase invited me to go with him which I did.

The night was dark, the prairie had been burned over much of the way, and there was no well defined road from Blunt to Pierre. The Harrold party, not being familiar with the trail to Pierre, engaged a citizen of Blunt to pilot them across the country, which he did, but did not participate in what happened in Pierre. Upon our arrival, we did not know whether it was before or after the Harrold party had arrived, we went to the Northwestern hotel where Sheriff Harris was staying, proceeded to his room on the second floor, aroused him and told him why we were there. As we were talking with him the telephone rang, and he stepped to the head of the stairs and asked the night clerk what the call was, who responded "you are wanted at the court house they are hanging Bell"; that is the substance of the response.

Harris quickly completed dressing and we left on foot for the court house; the hotel clock showed it was ten minutes after two. Pierre street was not opened above Pleasant Drive to the court house; there was a steep hill the rest of the way. As we approached the entrance to the court house yard, we saw a group of men who, quickly, like a covey of young prairie chickens, made a get away, going off to the Southeast and down by the old school house, which stood where the Wegner garage is now located. On the left or west side of the walk leading from the street to the front door of the court house, and just inside the entrance of the yard was a flag pole. A ladder stood against the pole from which Bell was hanging by the neck. Apparently some one had gone up on the ladder, with one end of the rope, put it over a rung near the top; then Bell was pulled up until he cleared the ground, and the rope was tied to the bottom rung of the ladder.

It was a weird sight in the gloom of the night to see Bell suspended, with practically no clothing covering his person. Mr. Harris cut the rope above the knot and lowered the body to the ground. Bell apparently was not dead as he gasped a few times but life was soon extinct. The body was carried into a room in the basement of the court house.

There were many wild and exaggerated rumors of the great number who comprised the mob that did the lynching. I am very certain that the number did not exceed fourteen, and all were residents of Harrold. They were well known citizens of that town and easily might have been identified had there been a demand for a thorough investigation. The Grand Jury was in session and did make a superficial inquiry by calling a few witnesses, of which I was one, Mr. Chase and a few others; the inquiry did not go further and ended. The crime was so atrocious and the guilt of Bell so certain, public sentiment accepted his death in the way in which it was brought about. It is of interest that near the scene of the lynching was found a coil of new rope, similar to the one used on Bell, which leads to the conclusion that the program of the mob was to lynch Bennett, which would have been accomplished except for our coming at the time we did.

Bennett was indicted for being an accessory after the fact, plead guilty and was sentenced to the penitentiary for five years, which was the maximum sentence under the law at that time. I happened to be on the train when the sheriff was enroute to Sioux Falls conducting Bennett to the penitentiary. I conversed with Bennett who freely told me much of the details concerning Small's murder, which enables me to state the same as I have in this narrative. In 1888 I was in Sioux Falls, visited the penitentiary, was conducted through the institution by the Warden, and in the kitchen I saw Bennett peeling potatoes; I did not speak to him, never saw him again, neither do I know what became of him after he was released.

To conclude the subject, will say the lynching occurred within about four months after the murder was committed, namely in April, 1885.

The other event mentioned in the opening paragraph of this article occurred in 1885. On February 17, 1885, President Chester A. Arthur issued a proclamation declaring the Winnebago Indian Reservation opened to settlement and subject entry under the Public Land Laws. Much of the area was in Hughes County. The proclamation was issued upon the assumption that the Reservation was an Executive Order reservation, and that it was within the power of the President to restore it to the public domain. Following the issuing of the proclamation there was the usual rush on the part of the public, locally and from abroad, to select lands upon which to establish a residence and acquire a home. Harrold, Blunt and Canning, particularly the latter because of its proximity to the reservation, were busy taking care of the crowds and engaging in the locating business. I happened to be extensively so engaged, and I also had made a selection of land for myself. Evidences of claims were everywhere; shacks were being erected, and many were making substantial improvements, waiting to make their filings, when the Government plats were received at the Land Office in Huron, from the General Land Office in Washington. On March 4, 1885, Grover Cleveland was inaugurated President, and almost one of his first official acts, was an order suspending the proclamation of President Arthur. This had the

effect of suspending activities on the part of the settlers, though a large number proceeded with their improvements, and some did breaking and planted crops in anticipation of the harvest to follow. Some time in May, as I recall, President Cleveland issued his proclamation rescinding the proclamation of President Arthur. The settlers were ordered to remove from the reservation forthwith. Later an order was issued from the War Department to enforce the order and a troop of soldiers was commissioned at Fort Sully to proceed and remove those who had not complied with the order of removal. It was said the last one to be removed by the soldiers was seen riding in an army wagon from Fort Sully, drawn by a team of mules, and she sitting on the top of her effects with a military escort. The effect of what happened as I have already indicated paralyzed the business in Eastern Hughes County, and there was not much doing. It was years before the country recovered, if it ever did entirely, which I do not believe it did.

It is said, and I have never heard otherwise, that the action of President Cleveland has a precedent, and that it is the instance in our history, where one President rescinded the proclamation of a former President. I am not saying that President Arthur was right in holding the reservation to be an Executive Order reservation, though he undoubtedly was so advised by his Attorney General while the succeeding Attorney General held otherwise. It never was judicially decided.

After some years Congress made an appropriation to reimburse those who had settled upon the reservation for what they could prove they had actually expended. I received forty dollars to cover what I had expended in building a shack. The few who survive and who resided in Hughes County during the years I have mentioned I am sure will remember the two events of that period that I have tried to cover.

—Charles H. Burke, 1870 Wyoming Avenue, Washington, D. C.

## John L. Lockhart

John L. Lockhart was born in Portage, Columbia County, Wisconsin, on April 17, 1856. He came to Clark County, Dakota Territory in 1882. He later went to Milbank and engaged in the hardware business. He was married in 1885 at Milbank to Miss Delilah Burman. Mrs. Lockhart's parents were one of the early pioneer families of Grant County, having taken a homestead there in 1878. The nearest railroad town at that time was Benson, Minnesota. That was two years before the town of Milbank was started. They saw two crops of grain grown where the town of Milbank now stands.

In 1894 Mr. Lockhart was elected Commissioner of School and Public Lands and he came to Pierre, the family coming on May 8th, 1895. When leaving the office after four years, he bought the George March grocery and crockery store, located where the Thomas Grocery is now. He continued in this business until 1906. After that he engaged in the real estate and investment business. In 1909 Mr. Lockhart was appointed

register of the United States land office at Pierre and he served in that office until August 1913.

During the capital fight in 1904 when Pierre was to remain the capital city, Mr. Lockhart was chairman of the reception committee and made two talks daily during the campaign, in all, ninety-nine talks. In appreciation of his services during this time, the citizens of Pierre presented him with a solid gold watch, suitably inscribed.

Mr. Lockhart was very public spirited, a tireless worker for anything he believed to be good for the good of his community, his town, or his state.

The family consists of John B. Lockhart of Berkeley, California, William H. Lockhart of Austin, Minnesota, Margarette of Pierre, and Mrs. Grace Stevens of Havre, Montana. Edna Kemp, a niece of Mr. Lockhart, was raised by Mr. and Mrs. Lockhart and made her home with them until the time of her marriage to Julian Staven in 1926.

## Lewis and Clark Expedition Once Visited Farm Island

Farm Island, located in the middle of the Missouri River near Pierre, is taking on new importance. Besides being the base of an up and coming Civilian Conservation Corps camp, it will play an important part as a storage center for the Great Plains Shelterbelt program, which has formally started in a small measure.

The new forestry tool house and office building have been built this month.

An interesting feature recently revealed about Farm Island shows that it was paid a visit in 1804 by the Lewis and Clark expedition, as proven by a study of early Dakota history. At that time, 131 years ago, the island was two and one half miles long and since that time has added only a half mile to its length.

The Lewis and Clark journal says in part, "They called the very straight portion of the river from DeGrey to Pierre the Grand Reach. They passed Farm Island, which was two and one-half miles long, and the main channel of the river passed north of it."

During the period from the late 20's on to the 50's, or in the fur trading era, the island was used by the Ft. Pierre army post as a location for its gardens. During the first five years of this time, it became known as Roy's Island, evidently from someone who associated long enough on the island to seem to own it. The name Farm Island came from the army post having its "farm" or garden lands located there.

—Daily Reminder, January 12, 1935.

## Flag Hobby—National Reputation

Henry M. Reed came to Pierre in 1910 from Nebraska and at once engaged in the jewelry, optical and watch repair business at the present location on Capital avenue where he has continued for 27 years. He

has become one of Pierre's most respected business men and has been a valued officer in Masonic and Odd Fellow lodge circles.

Mr. Reed and a host of friends were deeply saddened by the death of his wholesome wife, Sarah Isabella, who passed away on March 22, 1934. She is buried in Riverside cemetery, Pierre.

Henry Reed has followed the hobby for a number of years of making flags of various principalities. It is believed that his collection of flags is the most complete in the nation. He has the flags of 115 nations and states of the world, from the brilliant and complicated flag of Brazil to the simple tri-color emblem of France, all made by himself in spare time. Making these flags and displaying them is a hobby on the part of the veteran Pierre jeweler and Murdo is proud to co-operate with him in a proper display of them at Murdo today upon the visit of a national candidate for the second highest office in the land.

It was during the World war, when national patriotism reached unprecedented height and enthusiasm that Mr. Reed became interested in flag making.

When Italy entered the war the announcement was met with much enthusiasm here, although the United States was not yet in the fight. Italian flags were scarce and Mr. Reed decided that night he would make one of that nation. The next morning a flag of Italy floated from the staff in his yard. He was probably the first man in the state to pay the tribute to the Italian government.

As a result of the interest created by the flag, he continued in his new-found hobby. "I made every flag of the nations in the allied group, but I suppose I would have been mobbed if I had made any of the flags of the central powers," Reed says.

Not satisfied with his work unless every detail is perfect, he makes his flags full size and pays strict attention to the colors and decorations.

Mr. Reed is recognized as an authority on the history of flags and he has given talks on the subject in all the important cities of the state.

His most recent creations has been a reproduction of the South Dakota state flag and a flag for the city of Pierre. The National Geographic Magazine has shown interest in getting a picture of his collection.

—Murdo Coyote.

## Herman M. Sterud's Record

Herman M. Sterud was born in Norway on April 8, 1865. When 1 year old he came with his parents to the United States. Later, in Brookings county he married Carrie Enger, in 1888. They moved to Pierre in 1890 and to them were born 7 daughters who have grown to womanhood in this community.

Mr. Sterud began work in the office of Commissioner of School and Public Lands in 1890. On August 1, 1891 he began employment in the office of Secretary of State in which office he has been in continual service. This gives him the honor of having the longest service record of any employee in the State House, totaling 45 years August 1, 1936.

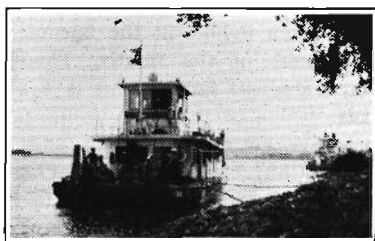
Mrs. Sterud was taken by death in 1930 and is interred at Riverside Cemetery. The Sterud residence is one of the most hospitable homes in East Pierre.

## The Robert Bagby Family

Hugh McGannon moved from Clay Co., Ill., to Sully county in the spring of 1883. He and son, Isaac, homesteaded north of Okobojo creek. Isaac, who had lost his wife before coming had a daughter, Della, who also filed on a claim. On Feb. 27, 1907 she married Robert E. Bagby who had come to Sully county also in 1883 with his father, James.

Robert Bagby and wife moved to Pierre in 1912 where Mr. Bagby has been employed on a star mail route ever since. James Bagby is dead but his widow still resides in Rapid City. Isaac McGannon spent the last 15 years of his life with his daughter, Della, in Pierre. He died in 1924 and is buried at Okobojo cemetery.

Hugh McGannon paid tax on town lots in Fairbanks for a number of years.



## Government Boats On The Missouri

Two government tugboats, the "Patrick Gass" and the "John Ordway" headed for Ft. Peck, Montana, anchored on the Fort Pierre and Pierre sides of the river on August 13, 1934.

The boats were 210 feet long and are to be used to assist in the construction of the government dam being built there. Captain Maulding assisted by Captain W. L. Heckman, both of whom are well known Mississippi and Missouri pilots, were in charge.

The boats were constructed at Gasconade, Missouri, and each cost \$60,000. They each carry a crew of eight men, which includes engineers, a mate, a watchman, deckhands, a captain, and a pilot.

Much interest was shown all along the route, since it is not often that boats attempt to sail up the Missouri. Perhaps, some time in the future the channel of the river may be deepened so that it may again become navigable as in the early days.

The trip from Sioux City to Yankton took two days and a half. It takes three and a half feet of water to float the boats. When shallow water is encountered a motor launch is sent ahead to "sound" for the deepest water. The boats have not yet, at this date, reached their des-



tination. They have succeeded in some instances in making their way through one foot of water.

It is reported that the boats have been docked at Mobridge and will remain there for the winter.

—Young Citizen, October, 1934.

## The Hyde Family

Charles Leavitt Hyde was born in Pike county, Illinois in June, 1860, on a small farm. He was the son of James Franklin and Harriet (Blake) Hyde.

In 1877, 1878, 1879 he rode the Wyoming and Colorado ranges as a young cowboy. He was quite an important hand for the Rockwell Cattle Company.

In 1886 he was united in marriage to Katherine L. Robinson in Warren, Ohio. They became the parents of five children, three sons and two daughters. Ruth, born in 1890, was graduated from the University of Chicago in 1912. Charles L., born in 1892, was graduated from Beloit (Wis.) College in 1913. Dorothy, born in 1896, completed the course in the Pierre High School at the age of fifteen. Franklin R., born in 1901. The youngest of the family, Theodore, born in 1904, graduated from Harvard Medical School and is a successful practitioner at Wichita Falls, Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. Hyde are active, prominent and helpful members of the First Congregational Church of Pierre. For more than a quarter of a century he has been one of its trustees. He has always been an active opponent of the saloons and all other forms of vice and has always been on the side of morality and virtue. Mrs. Hyde taught a Sunday school class continuously for 30 years, beginning when 16 years of age. Mr. Hyde has always been an active supporter of the commercial bodies of Pierre, and has given liberally to further any project for the public good and the up-building of the city.

His first investment in land in Hughes county was in 1886 but he did not move to Pierre until 1887. He became an extensive cattle raiser from 1889 to 1920. About the time of the World War he sold out most of his cattle and built the St. Charles hotel; in two years he sold more than a 1,000 head and put all the proceeds of these sales, sold at high prices, in the hotel building. The Hyde family have considerable property holdings in Hughes county and elsewhere. He has been reputed to be the largest tax payer in South Dakota.

Mr. Hyde's record has become an integral part of the history of South Dakota's Capital, and the consensus of public opinion places him among the most distinguished, prominent and valued citizens.

## Lester H. Clow

Lester H. Clow, 92, passed away Saturday after a full and active life. The oldest resident of Pierre, he was regarded as one of our out-

standing old time citizens. The Reminder has each year carried a brief writeup for Mr. Clow on the occasion of his birthday and our calendar was marked for November 2nd.

He was born at Higate, Vermont, in 1843 and had resided in Chicago and Wisconsin and northern Minnesota where he became allied with the lumber business. He came to Pierre in 1895 and associated himself with the J. C. Merrill lumber concern selling his interest in later years to Mr. L. L. Schaaf.

A prominent Mason, he was regarded as the oldest member of the order in the state.

In 1868 he was married to Miss Odella Taft, and to this union two children were born, Byron L. Clow of Missoula, Montana and Mrs. Irma Raver, of Edmonton, Alberta. Mrs. Clow died January 6, 1879. The following year he was married to Delia Franck of Sparta, Wisconsin and to this union four children were born, Mrs. Alice McCarthy, of Los Angeles, California, Mrs. H. W. Hardy, Aitken, Minnesota and Miss Iris Clow, of this city. Mrs. Clow died April 3, 1914 and since that time he has resided with his daughter in Pierre.

He was a member of the Congregational church.—Daily Reminder, 1936.

## Pioneer Woman Passes

Mrs. Julia B. Geltz, born December 4, 1850, passed away Sunday November 18, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Alice G. Dewell on West Capitol avenue, after a long illness, which had confined her to the home for many weeks.

Mrs. Geltz was married May 18, 1870, and with her husband, John Geltz, came to Pierre in 1884. During this half century, she has been prominent in church and educational circles, being the oldest living member of the Methodist church at the time of her death, and one of the earliest members of the local chapter, Order of Eastern Star.

For twenty-five years of her life she was recognized by the Indian department administration as a capable worker among the Indian girls, and served the government in Indian school institutions at Pierre, Flaudreau and other places, until her advanced age recently, made it a burden for her to serve these government institutions, where she was so highly prized by superintendents and administration officials.

The deceased lady was a constant member of the local Methodist church, and had fine ideals as to civil life and public betterment. Blessed with an irreproachable character, she was recognized by the leaders in community life, as one worth knowing and associating with. Her death, while anticipated by her large circle of friends and relatives, is nevertheless a shock to the pioneers of Pierre in particular, and will be to a large acquaintance among the Indian schools of the northwest.

Mrs. Geltz leaves to mourn her, two daughters, Mrs. Dewell, and Mrs. Winifred Wagner of San Francisco, Calif., both of whom were with

her at the time of her death. In addition, she has four grand-children and four great grand-children, among the circle of relatives to mourn her loss.

—Capital Journal, November, 1935.

## A Successful Businessman

Frank Pettyjohn, wife and three daughters, came to Harrold in 1907 and bought a hardware store belonging to Leach & Summerside. Mr. Pettyjohn purchased the VanDusen elevator in 1909; sometime later he bought another elevator from Austrud in Lake Preston.

In August, 1919 the family moved to Pierre where the John Davey residence was purchased and has since been the home of the Pettyjohn's. Two of the daughters were employed in the State House and the younger children took advantage of the good school facilities in the capital city. In 1920 a third elevator was secured at Canning and in 1926 a fourth was built in Pierre. Frank ran all four until his death in 1929. In June of that year he died of heart trouble and was buried at Riverside. His widow continued in the elevator business for sometime but due to poor years and other responsibilities devolving upon her, is giving most of her time to maintaining her home. The children are Lucille Scurr, Hortense Engel, Maybelle Burkhart, Frances, a teacher, Frank, in the Navy at San Diego, aboard U. S. S. Orlean, Harold, on road construction near Minneapolis.

## H. O. Marion Dies Sunday

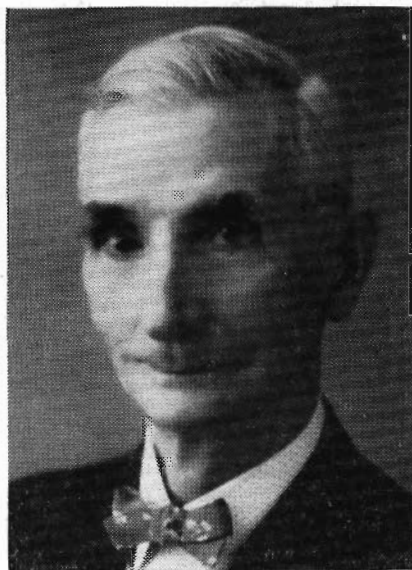
Hormidas O. Marion, 83, of Fort Pierre, passed away at St. Mary's hospital from the effects of a stroke suffered Friday. The deceased had been in a feeble condition for sometime and had not ventured far from his home in Fort Pierre for many months.

A French Canadian by birth, Mr. Marion was one of the early pioneer characters of Stanley county. He had been engaged in cattle raising and later moved to Fort Pierre, erecting a spacious family home on what is commonly termed "The Island." He was well known in Pierre, and many a boy, now a man, can recall apple stealing adventures to the Marion orchard. He gained considerable reputation as a market gardener until the infirmities of age caused him to retire.

He is survived by his wife and five children. Eva, Cecelia, Oliver and Bernard reside at the family home. A son, Willard, is a trapper living in the wilds of Canada. A brother lives at Deadwood.

Funeral services will be conducted Wednesday at 10 o'clock from the Catholic church in Fort Pierre, with burial to be made at Cedar Hill cemetery, with the Dotson Mortuary in charge.—Daily Dakotan, Feb., 1937.

Mrs. Marion was a sister of the late Louie Greenough and lived for a time in Pierre, several years ago.



Judge J. F. Hughes

## Hughes' Celebrate Golden Anniversary

Judge and Mrs. J. F. Hughes, of this city, celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary Sunday, June 28, at their home with a reception of friends during the afternoon and evening. Nearly five hundred people called and expressed their congratulations.

The Hughes home was decorated with many flowers which had been sent by friends. A large table was situated in the middle of the living room on which was centered a large wedding cake decorated by Mrs. H. S. Porter, of this city. The cake was decorated with gold and white roses, topped with a miniature bride and groom. The gold and white motif was carried out in the menu, and a gold hand-made cloth covered the table. Mrs. Sophia Formanock, of Mitchell, acted as hostess at the table.

Mr. and Mrs. Hughes were married in Pierre on June 29, 1886 by Father J. A. Buchman, of Plankinton. They resided in Pierre until 1901, Mr. Hughes having opened a law office. In 1901, the family moved to Fort Pierre, where Mr. Hughes served as states attorney for four years. In November, 1910, he was elected district judge, which position he has held since that time. Mr. Hughes came to this community from Scott county, Iowa, having received his education in Iowa schools and at the University of Missouri. Mrs. Hughes came to this community in 1882, from Galway, Ireland, with her family, who settled near Harrold, S. D., where Mrs. Hughes was living at the time of her marriage.

Judge Hughes has been active in this community in organizations and has served on the Hughes county board of education. Eleven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hughes. Eight of the children were able to be present at the golden wedding. We of Fort Pierre heartily congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Hughes and hope they have many more years of happily wedded life.—Fort Pierre Times, 1936.

John F. Hughes was born on a pioneer farm in Scott County, Iowa, attended the common schools there, taught school and thus paid his way through college while studying law. He was admitted to the bar in June, 1882 and that fall came to Pierre. At that time the town was nearly all south of the railroad tracks, there were no sidewalks, the only school was a frame building where the St. Charles now is; the courthouse was a small frame building about where the present courthouse stands. There were three or four residences north of it on Prospect Street and north of that was endless prairie.

Shortly after coming to Pierre Mr. Hughes rented desk room in the office of Justice of the Peace, McElroy, until the Hilger building was completed in 1883, when he secured offices therein and in which he continued while in Pierre. His law practice in time developed mostly into the trial of cases, civil and criminal, land contests, court marshal trials before military tribunals and so on. As a trial lawyer he became quite successful. In his earlier days he was mostly on the defense in criminal trials but later on most of his work in criminal cases was in prosecuting them.

In 1901 he moved to his homestead, adjoining Fort Pierre, but continued his law office in Pierre for some years thereafter. He was a member of the Board of Education of Pierre for a number of years and in 1889 when the Old Central, Washington and Lincoln School buildings were built. He was chairman of the Board of County Commissioners for a number of years, and was one of that band of Pierre men that labored for the opening of the Sioux reservation, the locating of the state capital at Pierre and holding it there.

Because of the reputation he had gained as a successful prosecutor of criminal cases he was nominated and elected in 1904 States Attorney of the then big Stanley County and re-elected in 1906, serving four years in such office. During the administration of President Taft he was offered the position of Assistant U. S. District Attorney at Sioux Falls but declined it. In 1910 he was first nominated and elected Circuit Judge of this Sixth Circuit, which office he still occupies.

Besides practicing law Judge Hughes has been interested in various business enterprises. In the early freighting days he became the partner of J. D. Hilger, the firm being known as J. D. Hilger & Company, and were the predecessors of the Tony Clothing Company. He has also been for more than fifty years engaged in the ranching business.

In 1886 he was married to Nellie Feeney, of Harrold; Mrs. Hughes is also one of Hughes County's pioneers. Her uncle, Mike Feeney, was

the track foreman for the Northwestern Railroad and superintended the laying of its track into Pierre in 1880, and the town of Harrold is on his preemption. Mrs. Hughes, then a young girl, came with her mother and brothers from Ireland to Siding Six (now Harrold) in May, 1882. She lived with her mother on the latter's land adjoining Harrold and attended school there. Mr. and Mrs. Hughes raised a family of five boys and six girls.

While Judge Hughes moved to Stanley County in 1901 he has never wavered in his allegiance and affection for the county of Hughes, in which his younger life was spent, and in which his early struggles for success were made.

## Col. Edward P. Farr Goes To His Reward

Col. Edward P. Farr, veteran of the Civil war and pioneer resident of this state, died at his home here Wednesday evening, November 28, 1923, at about 9 o'clock after an illness of many months. While Colonel Farr had been ill for a long time, his death, caused by pneumonia, was never-the-less sudden and came as a great shock to his many friends of this city.

The deceased was a native of the State of Vermont, born at Williamstown, June 13th, 1843. After accomplishing the work of the Common district schools he entered "Thetford Academy," where he prepared for Dartmouth College, and was in Dartmouth when he enlisted for service in the Civil War.

Comrade Farr enlisted as a private in Company "G" 10th Regiment Infantry, Vermont Volunteers, on the 8th of August, 1862. He arose through all the grades below the line, and was promoted Captain and Assistant Quartermaster United States Volunteers, and assigned to duty at General Wright's Headquarters, Army of the Potomac. After "Lee's Surrender," General Wright was ordered to Texas with Captain Farr, where he remained some time after his regiment was mustered out of the United States service, and brevetted Colonel. Colonel Farr rendered noble service to his country, his courageous and soldierly qualities gained for him the advancement he so richly deserved.

When the war was over, Colonel Farr remained in Texas for a period operating a cotton plantation, but at the end of two years went to New York, where he was employed by Archer & Pancost, extensive dealers in gas fittings, for several years. Thence he engaged in mercantile business at St. Johnsbury, Vermont, until 1876, when he accepted the position of traveling passenger agent of the Vermont Central Railroad, which position he occupied until he came to Dakota.

Colonel Farr came to South Dakota in the spring of 1883, and engaged in the mercantile business in the town of Harrold. He came to Pierre in 1889, and became identified with the National Bank of Commerce. Was elected and served two terms as County Treasurer from January 1st, 1905, to January 1st, 1909.

During the administration of Mr. Ewert as State Treasurer, 1913-1916, he was installed as bookkeeper in the Treasurer's office. During the 15th Legislative Session, 1917, he was elected Sergeant at Arms of the Senate, and at the meeting of the Soldiers' Home Board, Colonel Farr was appointed the superintendent of the State Soldiers' Home and installed the 1st of July, 1917, during the administration of Governor Norbeck.

Owing to impaired health, he resigned his position as superintendent of the home July 1st, 1922, whereupon he became a member of the Battle Mountain Sanitarium, where he received treatment for several months.

In September, 1922, Colonel and Mrs. Farr returned to the city of Pierre. Comrade Farr became a member of Sully Post, Department of South Dakota, G. A. R., 2nd December, 1891, transferred from Morgan L. Smith Post of Harrold. He held the position of Post Commander a number of terms, and was elected Department Commander in 1898—and accompanied the Department to the National Encampment held at Cincinnati, Ohio, in September of the same year. He was Post Commander at the time of his death.

In every direction useful to the community and untiring in its service, perhaps in no other way did he so much impress himself for good as in the characters of very many of the boys of Pierre who came directly under his influence as a teacher in Sabbath school and in promoting clubs for boys. In this way he became the mentor and ideal of a very large number of boys, and it is notable that every one of these has developed into men of character and usefulness. They are scattered abroad over the face of the earth, only a few remaining in Pierre, but wherever they are they are men worth while.

He was an honored Past Master Workman of Pierre Lodge No. 23, Ancient Order of United Workmen.

Colonel Farr was a loyal Mason of the 32nd degree.

—Pierre, S. D. Daily Capital Journal, Dec. 3, 1923.

## Mary Noyes Farr

Mary Ella Noyes graduated from Ladies' school near Boston in 1874. She taught in private school in New England; also engaged in public school teaching in Iowa; later she was principal of the school at Lisbon, N. H.; she was then called to Washington, D. C., where she was an instructor 3 years. She was in the capital city when Garfield was shot.

In October, 1882 she was united in marriage to Col. E. P. Farr in New Hampshire. He arrived in Harrold in June, 1882, while she came in October of the same year. The Colonel came to Pierre and bought the corner lot on Grand and Wynoka; also the one where the Penny store is now located. He saw a man shot and killed in a controversy. This seemed rather wild behavior, so he retired to Harrold and started a general store in partnership with Fred Beedle.



Mrs. Mary Noyes Farr

Mr. Farr later sold stock in the east for the National Bank of Commerce. He moved to Pierre in 1899. For more details, see article above.

Mrs. Farr has been an active member of the Congregational church but in recent years has not been able to attend services regularly. She will be 84 June 4, 1937. She was a charter member of the Eastern Star organization which had its initial meeting in the hall over Kemp's store in May, 1897. Those present at that memorable meeting 40 years ago were (ladies): Mary Noyes Farr, Emma Beckwith, Sarah Boyles, Alice Dewell, Wilhelmina Fay\*, Fanny B. Gaffy\*, Josephine Kehr, Susie McCord, Sate Alexander\* (men): David Boyles, E. P. Farr\*, George Fay\*, Loring Gaffy\*, Louis Kehr\*, W. H. Leighty.

Names followed by asterisk indicate persons deceased.

Mrs. Farr volunteered the information that Harrold was named for Wm. Harold Gary, who homesteaded the quarter section just east of the present townsite. In fact he attempted to locate the town on his land but failed. They did however name the town for him by adding an extra 'r'. Blunt was named for a man named Blount. It was shortened to the present name by dropping the 'o'.



## Lawler Family

Myself and sister, Alice Lawler Gifford, arrived at Siding 6, with our father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. James Lawler, on Sept. 16th, 1880.

At that date there were no towns between Huron and Blunt, and very little at Blunt. These sidings consisted of a side track and a section house for the railroad Section foreman and family to live in. Siding 6 above mentioned is now the town of Harrold, but at that time there was only the sidetrack and section house there.

Later in the fall of 1880, we moved on to Siding 7, which is half a mile east of the present poor farm of Hughes County.

This poor farm building was built by a man by the name of S. R. Price, in the year 1881, and was built for a hotel. This building looks practically the same now as it did then except it was built with a store front on the west side. S. R. Price, homesteaded this quarter section, which is described as the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 12-112-76. At the same time Price built the hotel he also built a residence, which was about 40 rods straight south of the hotel and this was the school house. Frank Price, the son of S. R. Price, taught school in this building the winter of 1882 and 1883. Alice Lawler Gifford and myself attended our first term of school in this building.

My father, James Lawler, was one of the track men that helped lay the steel into Pierre, and later was section foreman at Siding 7.

At the time we arrived here the land survey had not been made, but my father built a shanty and squatted on what is now the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 1-112-76, the place just north of the poor farm, and in 1884 he donated a tract of this land for a school house which was built that year. This is what was known as the Lawler school house and was located on what is now known as the Dristy place.

—L. Lawler, March 16, 1937.

## Louis Greenough, Pioneer Hardware Merchant

Louis Greenough, 79, pioneer hardware merchant, died Tuesday night at 11:45 at St. Mary's hospital where he had been undergoing treatment for several weeks for the effects of an illness of long standing.

Mr. Greenough had been in poor health for several years, and during the winter suffered an apoplectic stroke as a result of hardening of his arteries. He was taken to St. Mary's hospital for treatment and underwent an operation, but his advanced age prevented his recovery.

He was born in Richmond, Vermont, on November 15, 1853. As a young man he came to Dakota territory and was one of the first residents of the city of Pierre, having been engaged in the hardware business here for 48 years.

During the years of his residence here he took a keen interest in all public affairs, and at different times served on the board of education

and on the city commission. He was a member of the city commission at the time electric utilities were installed, and took a keen interest in the development of this part of the city's business. He was a democrat in politics, and professed the Roman Catholic religious faith.

He is survived by two sons, Louis, residing at Lindsay, S. D., and Francis, of Oshkosh, Wis., and by a daughter, Mrs. James Cox., of this city. Three other daughters died during childhood, and Mrs. Greenough died several years ago.

Funeral services will be held Friday morning at 10 o'clock from Sts. Peter and Paul's church, and burial will be in the family plot in Calvary cemetery.—Capital Journal, 1932.

## Automobiles

The first "horseless carriage" to be brought into South Dakota was a Haynes electric driven "democrat wagon" exhibited at the State Fair at Yankton in 1897 by Montgomery Ward & Co., secured for the occasion through the initiative of the editor of the Yankton Daily Gazette. An electric motor installed under the seat drove the car by chain transmission to the rear axle. The fair management advertised it as "The Wonder of the Century." It operated very satisfactorily and had the trick of turning around within the length of the wagon.

The following winter (1898) Louis Greenough, a hardware merchant of Pierre, who was a steam-fitter by trade, and Harry Adams, a machinist, devoted their spare time to planning a horseless wagon, and by spring had the proposition fairly worked out and detailed plans made. At that time they were employed to install a two cylinder, internal combustion engine (manufactured by the Wolverine Marine Engine Co., of Detroit) upon the ranch of Charles K. Howard, at Smithville on the Cheyenne River. They concluded that that engine was best designed for their purpose, and Mr. Adams went to Detroit and had an engine built particularly designed for their horseless wagon. A foundryman at Elkhart, Indiana, built the wagon for them and by mid-summer (Mr. Greenough having joined Adams in Indiana) they had an automobile in operation and running successfully. It was a strong wagon with seats for the driver and seven passengers; the engine tucked under the rear seat with chain transmission to the rear axle. They shipped it by freight to Pierre, intending to use it to transport passengers from Pierre to the Black Hills. When they arrived in Chicago it was necessary to transfer the machine across town from one depot to the other, which they did under its own power and the exhibition created vast interest. They were offered a high price for their invention, which they promptly refused. When they tried out the wagon at Pierre they found it unable to climb the hills on the Black Hills trail, the power being insufficient; but it ran steadily upon fairly level roads. They resolved to exhibit it at the fairs, hoping for profit in carrying passengers; but everywhere the authorities were hostile. At Mitchell they were not permitted to

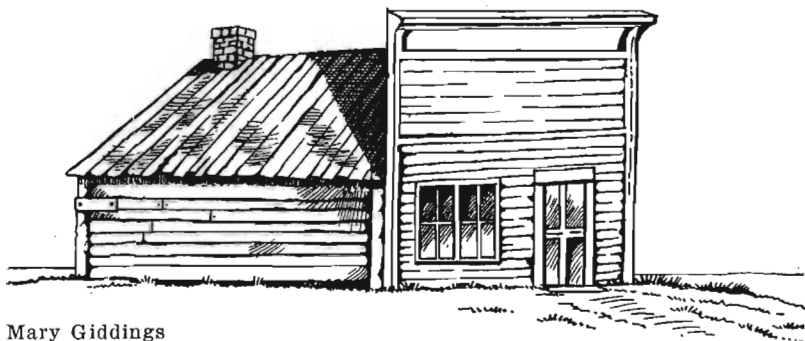
bring it within the corporation limits. They went on to Yankton and applied for license to exhibit it at the State Fair and to transport passengers from the city to the fair grounds, but this was refused. "The Press and Dakotan" voiced the general view when it was said, "It is a dead moral certainty that that infernal machine will frighten horses and endanger the lives of men, women, and children." Defeated at every turn, they shipped the wagon back to the foundry to have greater power put into it; but they had exhausted their resources and could go no further.

—Doane Robinson's Encyclopedia

## Pioneer Lady Passes

It has come to our attention that on the first of February, Mrs. C. K. Morton, age 93 years, passed away.

Mrs. Morton was a resident of Hyde county for fifty-one years. Was well known in her home county and to many people of Hughes county, being the mother of Mrs. J. H. McCord, Mrs. Caroline Wales and Mrs. Hal Williams, all former Pierreites. Mrs. Morton was buried at Highmore alongside of her husband, who passed away eight years ago.



Mary Giddings

## An Interview With Mrs. Louis Kehr

The first known school building in Pierre (in 1882) was located on Dakota Avenue, on what is now the downtown business district.

Previous to its being used as a school, it was a millinery shop, operated by a Miss Tillman, a cousin of Mrs. Louis Kehr, proprietor of "Kehr Grocery Store."

Enterprising early citizens felt the need of educational facilities and transformed this 16 x 20 foot wooden structure into a school of learning, with a Miss Cavalier, as the first teacher.



Old Ft. Sully as it appeared, 1865

## Old Fort Sully

Fort Sully was built by General Alfred Sully in the autumn of 1863 on the eastern side of the Missouri River. It was built of logs, the houses having earth roofs. It had accommodations for two companies. Intended as a cavalry post, it was found that insufficient hay was grown in the vicinity to supply the establishment, so in 1866 a new post was built 30 miles further up the river where hay was more abundant, and the old post (which was a mile east of the Indian school at Pierre) was abandoned, all of the practicable material being taken to the new post. The one most notable event at Old Fort Sully was the Treaty Council of 1865 (October) in which the troubles following the Outbreak were composed. After her rescue by Cawler, Fanny Kelley was delivered to the military at the post.

—Doane Robinson's Encyclopedia of S. Dak.



Monument Erected in 1929

## (New) Fort Sully

This Fort was established July 25, 1866, 28 miles up the river from Pierre on the east side of the river. There were quarters for 4 companies, built of cottonwood logs; 13 sets of officers' quarters; hospital; guard house; 6 frame buildings for store houses; frame stables 30x200 feet; laundry quarters (10 sets of frame buildings); bakery; ice house; root house, etc; brick magazine. The reservation had an area of 42 square miles. Water was supplied to the post by wagons from the Missouri river. 12 months' subsistence was kept on hand. It was headquarters for a Regiment. It was an important post during the period of the Indian wars, including the Messiah war of 1890. Many military enterprises against the Sioux outfitted there. It was abandoned in 1894 and the buildings sold to settlers. After abandonment as a military post, the range in the preserve was leased for grazing to ranchers. Many visitors go there during the summer and are usually rewarded by finding some relic of the past.

### Guy F. Barnes Relates A Story

About 20 years ago at the Locke hotel I fell into conversation with an old soldier, C. C. Merritt, of the 2nd Minnesota. He was one of the chief discoverers of the "Iron Range" in upper Minnesota.

He asked if I knew Frank Lucas, a local real estate dealer; they had formerly been acquaintances at Duluth. I told him we would go and see Mr. Lucas. On the way we met another old soldier, Ben Arnold, a local merchant, so I introduced the two.

Merritt related the fact that when a young fellow he had gone through a harrowing experience in these parts. He was coming down the Missouri by boat with a couple of other fellows and at the upper end of Little Bend they asked Merritt to take the gun and try to procure some wild game while they took the boat around the 25 mile bend in the river and he could join them where the loop came back within a couple of miles of their parting place.

He followed instructions but the fellows in the boat failed to show up, and after some hours of waiting he decided that prudence meant getting to safety and shelter before nightfall. This incident occurred back in the '60's so Indian molestation could occur at unexpected moments. He lost no time in heading to the southeast and just at dusk appeared over the ridge at Snake Butte north of Pierre. An Indian camp was spread below and the sharp eye of a warrior must have spied him for soon a number of the Redmen were in pursuit. Partial darkness saved him as he dropped into a washout where he concealed himself under rubbish. An Indian once came within 15 feet of him but they gave up the chase and returned to camp.

Merritt was below normal in endurance as he was not fully recovered from a siege of typhoid fever, so waited until about midnight before

stealthily giving the camp a wide berth in his course to the southeast. At daylight he was overjoyed to look down upon old Fort Sully north of Farm Island. He staggered weak from exertion and hunger into the mess kitchen and the cook at once set him something to eat. Arnold exclaimed "Were you that youngster, who dragged himself into camp that morning 20 years ago?" "Yes, I was," replied Merritt. "Well. I was that cook," ejaculated Arnold. If ever there was a thrilling coincidence, this was one.

Merritt had been so impressed with the experience of a decade before that he got Doane Robinson and together they went over as nearly as possible the route travelled by Merritt on that eventful night.

## Hughes County Patriots

The following list of men from Hughes county who died in the World War, 1917 and 1918 was prepared by the State council of defense and published in its final report; those who were killed in action are: Geo. P. Graham, Blunt; James W. Laughlin, Harrold; Herman Schliepp, Harrold; Rolland F. Bagby, Max J. Buker, Frank R. Simm, Robt. E. Huffman, Clarence Nelson, Robt. E. Ruthford, John C. Schoenberger, Charles E. Thorne, Joel R. Morrison and Anthony Gillis of Pierre.

—Doane Robinson Encyclopaedia.

## Will Grebing, War Veteran

Will Grebing was born at Elizabeth City, N. C. and came to Hughes county in 1899 as a single fellow of 19. He was united in marriage to Bertha M. Wolfe in 1905 at Huron. They had three children, Wilbert died 1931; Kennth, present manager of the Blue Line; and Doris.

Mr. Grebing was prominent in community and public affairs. He was active in Masonic and Odd Fellow lodge circles. He was a former member of the Pierre baseball team and the City band. He played a base horn which was purchased by Tony Hengel who now uses it in the same band.

He served 18 months in France in the World War, going with the Pierre contingent in 1917. He was delegated for the most part to the grave registration department and thus became familiar with several of the burial grounds in France. The largest was at Romagone where there were 22,000 graves. He returned home in July, 1919, on board the ship, "Antigone." He was made a Captain in the South Dakota National Guard in November, 1916.

He also spent the winter of 1915-1916 on the Mexican border. Since 1914 he has been owner of the Blue Line Transfer. When horses were in use in this business he kept a number of sturdy teams. He was Hughes county sheriff in 1921-25. While he was in France and while acting as sheriff Mrs. Grebing managed the transfer business. He died of heart trouble and pneumonia on July 4, 1936, and his remains rest at Riverside.

The Blue Line Transfer was established in 1881. Former owners were, Bert Wiggam, Frank Norman and E. C. Kindley.

## "Bob" Carlin Here from the Beginning

Of the many old timers living in Pierre today, R. L. Carlin is one of the first. He has lived here continuously since the fall of 1880.

Carlin came to Pierre as a cabin boy on a river boat when he was 12 years old. His father had formerly been a steamboat engineer, but had died, leaving Carlin an orphan at nine. He recalls seeing a man killed in a street fight, but adds there was comparatively little disorder.

His greatest experience was in the spring of '81 during the memorable flood that followed the long winter. While with a party of men in a boat he was cut off from shore by the sudden rising of the river, jammed with floating ice. Water was 15 feet deep over the railroad tracks and the party reached shore only after desperate and skilful maneuvering.

A gang of hoodlums took possession of the merchandise of several stores whose owners had moved the goods to higher ground, demanding ransom for its release. Vigilantes were organized, the hoodlums rounded up and the entire group of 14 men and one woman were set afloat on the rough waters of the Missouri river in a large boat.

Bob has watched Pierre grow from a village of shacks through the boom era and finally to see it settle down to remain the small but colorful capital city.—Argus Leader.

## The Cargo of Gold

Raymond Griffiths

"Gold in the city park"—was the startling cry that 15 years ago caused men to dig feverishly in a bank of the Missouri river in search of a legendary ship loaded with gold that was believed to have sunk here in the 1860's, but Mason P. Martin, 89 year old pioneer Pierre resident, laughs about the episode.

"They dug for the same ship at the mouth of Heart River in North Dakota," Martin said. "They wasted a lot of time and money digging here in Pierre, because even if there was a buried ship there, they'd have a hard time keeping out the quick sand after they dug down a ways."

Martin came to Pierre in 1880 and built a small house near the site of where the ship was supposed to have sunk. The spot, the legend says, was marked by three giant cottonwood trees, called the "Three Sisters." Only two remain today, the other having died and used for firewood.

The story relates how a ship, laden with gold from Montana, tied up for the night near three tall cottonwoods. During the night a storm arose and sank the ship. Only one man survived, and he made his way to Sioux City, where he told the story of the ill-fated voyage to friends who wasted no time in setting out to locate the boat and its precious cargo. There is no record that they were successful.

Then in 1922 the bug was revived, a company organized and a shaft sunk, but not a trace of a ship nor a shekel ever rewarded their efforts.

The boarded shaft is still there, a mute reminder of another hunt for gold at the rainbow's end.

The railroad company owned the land where Martin built his house, but after a two week residence he was ordered to move. Putting skids under his home, he transferred it to another part of town. The railroad company later deeded the land to the city and today it constitutes part of the two miles of municipally owned Riverside Park, the site of the "Three Sisters," the old shaft being toward the eastern end.

## U. P. Solberg Died at Home Today

U. P. Solberg, another of Pierre's old time residents, passed away this morning at 12:45 o'clock at his home, following a short illness. He was 60 years old.

Ulrick Peterson Solberg was born April 17, 1856, near Hesper in Highland township, in Winneshiek county, Iowa. He attended the public schools at Cresco, Iowa. When just a boy his parents moved to western Iowa and settled near Estherville. A few years later he moved to Sioux Falls, S. D., where he learned the hardware business. There he was married and moved back to Estherville. In later years he owned hardware stores at Beaver Creek, Minn., and Sioux Center, Iowa.

In 1905 he moved his family to Pierre, and homesteaded south of Fort Pierre. Up to the time of his death he lived in his home with his daughter on Third street. His wife preceded him in death.

Left to survive him are two daughters, Rose and Daisy, also five grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock from the Dotson chapel, and burial will be made in Riverside cemetery in the family lot. Rev. R. E. Anderson will officiate at the services.

—Jan. 29, 1937, Daily Dakotan.

## John A. Samuelson Among the Earliest

John A. Samuelson had the distinction of being the first settler in Split Rock Township, Minnehaha County. He was born in Sweden on June 27, 1837. He immigrated to the U. S. when 21 years old. He located for a time at Boone, Iowa where he worked on railroad construction. In 1869 he was employed in Sioux City and during that year came up and made a filing in the township named above. About 1870 he was married to Anna L. Johanson in Sioux City.

He worked on river boats between Sioux City and Bismarck and earned money to make a home on his land. He once made the trip up between there and Sioux City. In 1890 he came to Pierre and purchased some lots near St. Mary's hospital. Two years later he invested in land in Byron Township. Our subject practiced thrift, and perseverance and became quite well-to-do. When moving from Minnehaha County to Hughes County, he used the customary prairie schooner and trailed the



cattle; that was in 1898. He resided there until 1918, when he bought a home in Pierre and moved his family there.

The children are: Anna, Pierre; Celia, Stanley Co.; John, Faith; Carl, Faith; Christina Peterson, Brandon; Emil, Faith; Martin, Lacy. Christina lives on the original Samuelson homestead.

The mother died in 1905; the father passed away at the age of 90 in 1927 and both rest at Riverside cemetery.

Celia started teaching in 1898 in Byron district; the other teacher in the district that year was Ida Nordvold, who is now Mrs. Robert Lumley, Pierre.

## The Dorothy Family

Emmitt F. Dorothy came to Pierre in February, 1895 from Iowa. He was a young man in his early thirties. A few months later he brought his wife, three daughters and one son to reside here. Another son was born in 1896.

He opened a general merchandise store on Dakota Avenue in Pierre, which he conducted for several years. In 1900 he established the Range Mercantile Co., in Ft. Pierre, although his family always resided in Pierre. At that time, Ft. Pierre served miles of territory, for the railroad hadn't gone through to Rapid City. Thus both ranchers and cowboys came in for supplies by the wagon load. In 1910 he sold the Mercantile Co., and bought the Tillman grocery store, now the Thomas Grocery, which he conducted for just a year.

Harry bought a large ranch on Spring Creek in the northwest part of the county. He was associated with Jaynes and Harbaugh and bought cattle on this side until ill health caused him to retire. He passed away Sept. 15, 1925, and Mrs. Dorothy died February 1, 1935. Both are buried in the family lot at Ute, Iowa.

All the children are living, Blanche D. Adcock resides in Kansas City, Mo., Ray Dorothy and Elsie Core are now living in Sacramento, California, Myrtle Darner still lives in Pierre and Verne the youngest son lives in Seattle, Washington.

## An Early Settler

N. E. Howard was born in Greenville, Ohio, in 1854. He removed from there to Kokomo, Indiana, and it was not until Nov. 17, 1882, that he landed in Pierre where he has since resided.

Back in 1874 he was married to Emma M. Thacker who died in 1923. Three children are still living from this marriage. Earl W., in roadmaster's office, C. N. W. Ry. at Huron; Mary Logan, St. Paul; Ray P. of Casper, Wyo., who graduated from Pierre H. S.

"Nick" engaged in the bakery business when bread sold 2 loaves for 5c; 12 loaves for 25c. Delivery was made with horses, of course. His competitor, Arthur Stores, bought Nick out and he went into the

painting business and followed that trade permanently until he sustained an injury from a fall some months ago. Hank Hausman entered the bakery business after Mr. Howard sold out. He built the brick building now occupied by the Vandercook Realty Co.

## Pioneers To Be Remembered

Corwin D. Mead came to Pierre in 1882 and for a number of years was engaged in the law business but in later years has confined his activities to the realty field. He was married to Ida Wicks in 1881 at Columbus, Ohio. Their children are, Mary M. Renwick, Boston; Winifred M. McNamee, Claremont, Calif.; Ruth, living in Pierre with her father. Mrs. Mead passed away in 1920.

C. D. Mead built an elegant home on the corner of Prospect and Grand avenues and it has been their home continuously. Ruth and her father have spent the past 9 winters in California.

The Mead yard is noted for floral beauty in the growing season. The Scilla and Tulips might especially be mentioned.

Mr. Mead says that the real estate business is as quiet now as he has ever known it. Yet he has known times when there was feverish demand for all kinds of land regardless of price. He was probate judge 1883-5; territorial legislator 1887-8, when the capital was at Bismarck; city treasurer 2 terms; a member of the city commission.

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Andrew Schmutz was born in Baden, Germany, in 1860. He crossed the ocean with his parents, Alois and wife, in 1882. They came to Pierre in 1887. Andy's brother, Charles, also lives in Pierre. The father and mother are both dead, the mother passing away soon after arriving in this county. Both are buried at the Catholic cemetery north of town. Mary and Adolph were other children. Andrew worked for some months at Yankton and Sioux Falls but spent most of his career in Pierre. Andy is a widower with three sons, Leo, Bernard and Adolph.

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John S. Nelson, Civil War veteran, was born in Wisconsin, March 7, 1846. He resided there until after the war in which he served 18 months. In 1865 he married Mary E. Shaylor to which union was born 3 children—Mina Lounsbury, Calif.; Win, deceased; Archie, mail carrier in Pierre. The family came here in 1900, first to Hyde county and then to Pierre. He died February 22, 1934, one of the last G. A. R. members in the county.

Mr. Nelson was quite active until his last illness. He enjoyed getting out and taking part in old time dances, lodge affairs and community celebrations. He was a man of good habits which added much to his span of life. His optimism helped him to enjoy life.

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Palo Bianchi and M. P. Martin celebrated their birthdays together here Thursday evening with a birthday dinner at the Welch cafe. The

combined ages of these two men was 172 years. Both received the congratulations of their many friends for continued longevity and good health.

—Capital Journal, Nov. 17, 1934.

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Mrs. Mary Morse was born in Springfield, Ill. On Nov. 9, 1889 she and her husband came to Pierre. After being in business for a while, her husband, James W., became elected clerk of courts of the county. He died in 1905.

Mrs. Morse is 77 years old and has been an Eastern Star 34 years. The children are, Bernie, postal employee; Kathryn, employed in state house, and Mrs. J. J. Farrell, of Fort Pierre.

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Horace H. Clark was born in England in 1863. He landed in Canada in 1882 at Montreal. From there he went to Oregon in the Willamette valley where he remained for 3 years; the next 5 years were spent in eastern Oregon and from there he trailed with schooner into Idaho following the Snake river, crossed the lava plains and thence out of that state about 40 miles below the Jackson Hole country. They entered the Bitter Root mountains via Thompson plateau and passed through the South Pass in the Rockies. The altitude there was 10,000 ft. Mr. Clark remembers distinctly a large bear which rose up on its haunches to about the height of 7 feet as they passed the shore of Gray's Lake in Idaho. He had no firearm but managed to frighten the animal away; it made a bellow like a steer as it scampered for cover. Mr. Clark landed in Pierre in 1892. He has done much work with live stock but of later years has done team work about Pierre.

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Adam Thierolf came to Pierre in 1901 from Chicago and a couple of years later filed on land near Sansarc in Stanley county. This French-German pioneer and wife have made a success of the ranching business and now own 1040 acres of banner prairie. At present they are running sheep and horses. In 1937, Mrs. T. is 75 and her husband 73. Though suffering some physical handicap Mr. Thierolf is quite optimistic and is satisfied that they cast their lot in this territory.

## Jacobsen in Who's Who by Fox

Jacobsen, Elias; b. Clinton, Rock Co., Wis., Aug. 20, 1859; s. Henry and Annie P. (Seavers) J.; ed. A.B., Beloit Coll., 1882; m. Ethel L. Collins; ch. Edmund L.; Helen (Meigs); Edith C. (Fox); Eric C.; Dorothy S. in Indian service, 1883-95; rancher, merchant, 1895-1902; realtor, 1903-08. Alderman, Pierre, 1896-1900; justice of peace, 1902-06; clerk and deputy commissioner, school & public lands, 1908. Phi Kappa Psi. M. B. A., K. O. T. M., B. A. Y., Home, Pierre



## Methodist Church Erected in 1910

On May 24, 1881, the Methodist Episcopal church was incorporated in Pierre. The trustees at that time were, E. A. West; W. H. Glecker and A. F. Russell. Rev. S. T. Tackabury was the pastor. The first meetings were held in the Northwestern Ry. depot; later in the Reed hotel located on the present site of the Red Owl building; then a \$1500 building was constructed midway between the present Floyd & Bagby garage and the Albright Wholesale building.

In 1910 the splendid structure shown above was dedicated. The cost, \$78,000, was mostly subscribed at that time. The pastor at that time was Rev. A. D. Thibodeau. Today the building is free of debt.

Rev. C. D. Bullock adds these facts. Average S. S. attendance for 1937 was 145; there are 385 active members of the church; adding to this the constituent members, there are 725.

At the time of the semi-centennial observance in 1931 a history of the church was distributed which was edited by Ed K. Eakin of Pierre.

## Locke Hotel

In 1895 or thereabouts, the Locke Hotel was the only hotel west of Chicago heated by natural gas.

Saline mineral water, underlying the earth in the hotel vicinity, at a depth of 1,200 feet has proven merits. The discovery was made in June, 1893, upon the completion of an artesian well by the government for the use of the Pierre Industrial School. It was seen at once that the water had very unusual qualities, such as were possessed by no other artesian water in the state. Since then another well has been put down by the Locke Hotel Company, to be used in connection with the hotel. These waters contain methane or natural gas in large proportions, so much so that the water rushing from the pipes at the surface is readily ignited and pours from the well in a perfect torrent of flame—the temperature of the water being 93°. The well flows at the rate of 600 gallons per minute. The water after freed from gas is perfectly clear, soft and possessed of medicinal properties which are valuable.

The Locke Sanitarium Company advertised far and wide the medicinal merits of the water. They contended it would alleviate or cure rheumatism, diseases of the skin, liver, lungs, kidneys and indigestion.

The Locke was first owned by W. P. Locke, I. D. Brainard and S. W. Goodwin of Waterville, N. Y. W. A. King acted as manager for 2 years when it was opened. Later some Pierre citizens purchased the property. Among those who secured an interest were J. C. Eager, L. B. Albright and Chas. H. Burke. George H. Washburn was a later owner; he still lauded the beneficial water in the plunge. This large hotel was thoroughly overhauled and improved by the Myers Hotel Co., who still operate the institution.

## The Old Street Cars

Ed Eakin came down from the parental Sully county home to attend the Pierre University in the fall of 1886. He relates some early day items.

East Pierre had perhaps in that day the major business section of the town. A large hotel, the Wells' House, stood 1 block east of the intersection of Dakota avenue and Harrison street. West of the Wells' House there was a feed store and a fire house in the same block; west in the next block were other business houses and a large bank building.

On the north side of Dakota avenue opposite the Wells' House there were two banks and at the west end of the block was the Waverly House, later moved to West Pierre and greatly enlarged, but retained the original name.

A street car line ran along Dakota avenue from the Wells' House to the First National Bank corner, while another branch of the same line started from a point north of the East Pierre depot and ran north to Capital avenue, thence west to Central avenue and south to Dakota avenue and thence east one block past the Locke hotel to meet the other line at the intersection of Pierre St. and Dakota Ave.

In the block west of the Waverly hotel and on the north side of Dakota Ave. were several business houses, among them a drug store run by Dr. Sprague, a practicing physician. Extensive coal sheds were located along the railroad tracks and a livery barn was located on the side opposite from the Sprague drug store. These livery stable buildings were later moved to the Tyler ranch by George W. Lumley, Sr. and are yet part of that ranch.

W. H. Wells was manager of the street car line. The car barns were back of the Wells hotel. The cars were pulled by mules or horses. Part of the car barn material was moved to the McClure ranch, 8 miles down the river in the early 90's.

## Earliest Official County Records

Evidently the first book of proceedings for this county is still in the possession of the county auditor. From the minutes of the commissioners' proceedings of Dec. 3, 1880, we find the following:

On motion the county seat was located at Pierre. Licenses to sell

intoxicating liquor cost \$300 yearly, payable 6 months in advance. Licenses at a later meeting were granted to D. R. Martin, August Heine, Isaac H. West, Murphy & Landy, Sickles & Caldwell, and others. 8 licenses were issued on Dec. 8.

The clerk, H. E. Dewey, was instructed to correspond with Mr. Hewitt of the C. & N. W. R. R. in Chicago relative to securing grounds for public buildings. Perkins Bros., of Sioux City and Bowen & Kingsbury of Yankton Press & Dakotan presented the proposition of offering to furnishing record books and stationery for the county offices. Proceedings were ordered printed in the Ft. Pierre Signal.

W. T. Dow was instructed to go to Chicago and investigate relative to procuring material for a jail and a safe for the county offices. The sheriff was instructed to investigate one Jones alleged to be selling liquor at his Spring Creek ranch.

On Jan. 4 the county was divided into 3 commissioner districts. No. 1 and No. 2 were in Pierre and No. 3 comprised the rest of the county. A motion was passed to secure a box car from the Railway Co. for a calaboose. The salary of the clerk was fixed at \$360 per annum.

The commissioners advertised for bids for a ferry to ply between the foot of Pierre street and the mouth of Bad river. Ads were put in the county papers and the Yankton Press & Dakotan.

The proceedings of April 4, 1881, take up considerable space in relating an ouster attempt against clerk H. E. Dewey, who was also register of deeds. George L. Ordway, Wm. P. Ledwich and Joseph Reed were the county commissioners. On this date Ordway is mentioned as absent. Chairman Ledwich after calling the meeting to order, handed a paper to a bystander, Levi J. Hamilton, to be read. A motion carried that it be read. The paper said, "Whereas a vacancy now exists in the office of register of deeds and ex-officio county clerk of Hughes Co., D. T., therefore be it resolved by the board of county commissioners of Hughes Co., D. T., that said office is hereby declared vacant."

The paper was returned to the chairman who immediately moved that the resolution be adopted and voted "aye" as did Comm. Reed. Since the motion carried, clerk Dewey asked for the resolution that he might record it, but was refused and a committee consisting of Geo. H. Drew, R. S. Campbell, Anson Hilger, S. M. Laird and William Freschel were named to take possession if it. This committee also began to take steps to take possession of the records and correspondence in the office of register of deeds. Dewey warned them of the criminality of their acts and asked why this mob came to disturb or usurp the property of a duly functioning officer. One Henry Bender attacked Mr. Dewey for calling the crowd a mob (there were about 15 or 20). Drew and Laird forcefully took Dewey who was seated on his desk toward the door handling him in a violent manner. Dewey then consented to leave voluntarily. And the "mob" proceeded under the guidance of commissioner Lewwich to pillage and rifle the property under the custody of the register and clerk; also his private correspondence. Commissioner Reed offered no resistance to

the unlawful action. A trunk was procured at the Freschel store and all official papers placed within. Dewey was asked to take his private papers and leave. The board then departed without recessing or adjourning.

On the morning of April 5 when Dewey returned to his customary office he found 2 men with pistols placed there by the commissioners who warned him to stay away. Dewey took his private papers to the Kelly Hotel and opened an office as register of deeds and county clerk.

No further commissioner proceedings are recorded in this book but its further pages are devoted to records pertaining to the office of register of deeds.

It is presumed that the beginning of records in this book is about the first written official county record. Here is the wording: "Friday, Nov. 26, 1880, Wm. P. Ledwich, Joseph Reed and George L. Ordway having been appointed Commissioners by the Governor and having duly qualified according to law, met at Kelly's hotel in Pierre in the said county and organized by electing Comm. Ledwich chairman. The following officers were appointed: Register of Deeds, H. E. Dewey; Sheriff, Patrick W. Comford; Treasurer, Frank M. Allen; Assessor, Ben C. Ash; Superintendent of Schools, Wm. B. Williams; Surveyor, P. Frank McClure; Coroner, Isaac H. West; Constable, John Calwell.

## This Ambitious Character Has Seen Much

At 6 o'clock this morning I fell into conversation with Frank C. Smith on the Capitol grounds as he was on his way to open the equipment room and make ready for the day's work. The water is turned on the lawn earlier on Monday because of none being used on Sunday.

He came to Yankton in 1880 and arrived in Pierre in 1883 as one of the drivers for the Iowa & Montana Cattle Co., who were moving 1800 of cattle at that time west to Montana. The night before reaching Pierre the cattle and riders rested near Farm Island. Frank was the only person in the outfit under 21; he was 19. He went on with the cattle as far as the Black Hills and then returned to Pierre where he has since resided. The cattle were taken on to Powder river. His grandfather came here in '83 and is buried at Riverside. He was born in 1801.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Smith was solemnized in 1888, in the house now occupied by Mrs. G. H. Jaynes. The bride was Lizzie B. Quinn. They had 1 son and 3 daughters, now all deceased. Frank drove a street car here in 1886-87. The operation of these slow moving vehicles of transportation was discontinued in 1907.

He remembers the advent of the automobile in these parts. As an employee with the Standard Oil Co. he filled the tank of Louie Greenough's car when it first came to Pierre. He worked for this concern for 10 years; L. B. Albright was manager. When natural gas came into commercial use here Mr. Smith sold out the oil delivery equipment he had because he feared that it would cripple the kerosene and gasoline

business, but at that time no one anticipated the monstrous industry that would be built up in that line because of the fuel used in tractors and autos.

In 1911 it was very dry here and he took his teams to North Dakota where crops were better and sold them. He had done hauling of gravel and sand for quite a time. He hauled that material for the state house when built. He helped to tear down the old capital building: Since 1912 he has been quite continuously employed at the state house and grounds.

When asked to compare hard times now and formerly he said that he has known some mighty difficult seasons. He has hitched up a team early in the morning and driven all over town more than once offering to work for \$1. per day and found none. He has taken his family into the winter without a dime on hand. His credit was good and he kept it good and now owes no one. People are inclined to give up too easily and depend too much on government assistance he feels.

—Bert L. Hall, May 17, 1937.

## Obershaw Ancestors Here In 1876

H. C. Obershaw did not reach the county till 1906 but has been an active citizen since. In 1913 he was wed to Sadie Davis at Monmouth, Ill. At that time she was employed as a teacher at Roseville, Ill.

He has followed the land business and worked for the federal department of justice from 1913-1925. His work had to do with enforcement of the liquor laws and the Mann Act. He has been city and county justice for a number of terms.

Mr. Obershaw and wife have been active in church work in the Congregational denomination. He has gone through the principal Masonic orders. At present he is Big Brother to crippled children for the Shrine hospital at Minneapolis. His services are donated in the interests of charity. He is a firm believer in the possibilities of Pierre and is optimistic about the return of better times. He is considered one of the outstanding Masons of the state from the educational standpoint.

Mr. Obershaw's ancestors came from Normandy, France to Canada, thence to this country and their annals reveal that they were evidently at Bad river mouth in 1876. Previously this party had been to St. Louis and St. Joseph, now Missouri. Chas. De Land was able to trace some of their operations through the Missouri Historical Society. See page 118 of the S. D. Historical volume published in 1918. H. C's. father was Gabriel Aubuchon but when he was naturalized the judge wrote it as Obershaw, so since then the family have retained the newer form. His parents were both born at sea.

## River Ferry Days

Fifty years ago John Olson and family moved here from North Dakota. The children were Alfred, Ed, George, Henry and Severt, deceased. John was a river man as were also some of the boys. He carried mail



across the river from Pierre to Ft. Pierre for 8 years in a row boat. In partnership with Rid Bruner and Lindsay, 9 motor launches were in operation at one time. Some were 30 and 40 feet long. Mrs. John Olson died in 1913 and her husband in Sept., 1926, and both are buried in the Fort Pierre cemetery.

Rid Bruner now works for the Park Board in the Black Hills. Of the sons, Henry runs the ferry at Rulo, Nebr. Severt ran the ferry at Decatur until his death 3 years ago. His boat would carry 10 cars at a time.

Some of the boats which used to ply up and down past here were, "City of Fort Pierre," "Jim Leighton," "W. D. Waldon." The last two did considerable freighting across for the railroad, transporting large numbers of cattle and heavy freight. The "City of Fort Pierre" left here under the pilotage of the Senechal boys with a load of buffaloes for Omaha and so far as I know it was not brought back.

—Alfred Olson.

## Fur Traders On The Missouri

On February 12, 1934 Zell Guthrie read a paper which he had prepared on the above subject before the Dickens Club. It was a masterful treatment of the topic but space permits giving only that portion which pertains to local activity.

The name Astor is the most prominent in early American fur trading. The family became immensely wealthy although some of their manipulations were of doubtful character. At one time a half million men could be mustered on a moment's notice, so extensive was their operations.

The South Dakota Blue Book gives us these facts.

1743—The Verendryes came to the mouth of Bad River and visited Chief Little Cherry's village at the present buffalo pasture.

1796—Loisel built a post on Cedar Island in the Big Bend.

1802—Trading post at Cedar Island. Lewis and Clark mention this post as 60 or 70 ft. square, built of red cedar and picketed with the same material.

1808—The Saint Louis fur company organized for trade on the upper Missouri establishing a post in Loisel's house on Cedar Island.

1810—Loisel's post burned with a large stock of furs.

1813—Manuel Lisa established a fort in the Big Bend.

1817—The fur trade revives; Joseph La Framboise builds Fort Teton at Fort Pierre. He was mixed French and Ottawa Indian.

1855—Government buys Fort Pierre and General W. S. Harney brings 1200 soldiers to Pierre, where the command was divided and spent a winter, most of them on Peoria bottom.

Pierre Chouteau had the monopoly of the fur trade from about 1831 to 1866, with Fort Pierre as the center post. Jim Bridger and Basil Claymore were famed traders.

A trader named Manuel Lisa, a Spaniard, started the fur trading industry in the vicinity of Pierre in 1807.

So the locality in which we live is rich in the history of adventure, endurance and romance; that Fort Pierre was the center for trade of a vast territory.

## Early Freighting In Picture

In the Pierre National Bank hangs a large framed picture taken by R. L. Kelly near Ft. Meade in 1885. It shows the freight outfits of those days as operated by the Northwestern Transportation Co. and which plied between Pierre and the Black Hills before the time of the railroads. This outfit was known in local vernacular as a "bull train" and consisted of 10 yoke of oxen to each team, with three wagons trailed. When bad places in the road were encountered, the trail wagons were pulled through, one at a time.

Rather a complete story of the outfit, giving names of the drivers, is listed with the picture. The information was given C. H. Fales by Maurice Langdeau, who was one of the bull whackers.

## DeWitt U. S. Scout, Guide, Interpreter, Citizen

Louis DeWitt has this to say about his origin:

I have been asked by a good many of my friends to write a story of my life and experiences. It is difficult for one of my age and education to prepare such an exposition. I had only meager schooling and am now over 80. I was born at old Fort Pierre about 1855. The information concerning my birth and early years was given me by Major Franklin J. De Witt. My father, a French-Canadian, went from Canada to St. Louis, then up to Ft. Pierre. I do not know the year he reached there or the year he married my mother. She was a Sioux woman of the Yanktonais tribe, a niece of Bone Necklace, head chief of that tribe. All I remember is that we lived at Ft. Pierre up to 1863. My father died while I was quite young.

When I was grown a Frenchman told me my father's last name was Veaux; another party said his name was Vieu. I have a brother Charles, living on the Moreau river.

Charles Galpin was first in charge of the Fort. He was followed by Charles Premeau. The Rees coming down the river in skin boats gave trouble to the Sioux. They kept hid in the day time and stole at night. In 1863 they ran off with my father's horses. We were afoot so my father built a flatboat in which we could go down the river. We ran into some white men on Cedar Island, cutting cedar trees to be used as pickets at Ft. Thompson. We stayed with these men while they made rafts which were used to make the trip to Ft. Thompson. Here were more canoes than I had ever seen in my life before, belonging to the Santee and Winnebago Indians, who were held as prisoners (mostly women).



DeWitt and Mount

After my father died I was taken care of by Major De Witt, who ran a store first at Ft. Thompson and later moved to Yankton. The De Witts were very good to me and led me in the right path for they were Christians. Charles M. Sheldon and I were school chums and were pupils of Joseph Ward at Yankton. In 1927 we met again at a Yankton College Commencement after a separation of 51 years. Sheldon wrote a number of popular religious works. one of which is, "In His Steps."

I was a party to many buffalo hunts, one being in territory, now Hughes county. That was in 1864-65. We started at Dry Run creek and went to Medicine Butte and waited for runners to bring in word where buffaloes might be found. Often their presence could be learned by the rising of dust. Tents were pitched in circles, with the ponies staked within. This was a protection against theft by the Rees. When ready for the chase the riders were divided into 2 groups which attacked the herd from opposite sides. Soon buffaloes would be lying about with arrows sticking from their sides. The fellow who downed a critter got

the hide but the meat was divided among those who did the work. The women performed much of the labor outside of riding.

The De Witts taught me to seek good company; I joined a Temperance society; they helped me form good habits for which I have always been thankful. I sang for a while in the Congregational choir. When the Major got me in May, 1866 I could not speak a word of English. I am sorry of one thing; these good people wanted me to go on to school but I didn't and on Washington's birthday, 1876 I joined a party of over 60 men going to the Black Hills. Dana Todd and I were the youngest. Near Buffalo Gap (now) I killed a deer, a large black tail. I was 21 and filed on a mining claim in Rapid Canyon. I also helped lay out the town of Rapid City. 52 years later I rode up the canyon on the narrow gauge railroad and saw the log shack I had built a half century before.

We arrived in Custer City in March, 1876. Most men were wearing their hair long. Gambling and dance halls were the main amusements. Dana's brother John had located in the Hills before and he came for us in a cart drawn by a yoke of oxen. We packed in our belongings and went to his camp near Rapid Creek. We went washing for gold but had little success; it was not uncommon for men to be killed and robbed after they secured gold. They charged us \$1 apiece for the letters we got. I joined a ball team and J. E. Ziebach, now president of the Jerauld County Bank was the captain. In May of '76 I reached Rapid City, then a few log houses, and after getting a party of about 60 together we set out for Ft. Pierre. From there I went to Yankton on a flat boat. The next spring I joined an expedition to the Yellowstone country in Wyoming. I had to go to Cheyenne agency by stage and there enlisted as a U. S. Indian Scout. In April, 1877 the expedition started west under the command of Gen. Baul. 10 Indian scouts were in the party, all full blood Sioux except myself; I was the youngest. We went by boat with our scout ponies aboard and it took 4 months to reach a place where we built Ft. Custer. We were looking for Sitting Bull but failing to find his band, I got permission to return to the Cheyenne river country which I did in August, 1877. My diary used on this trip is filed with the Dept. of History.

I acted as scout during the mapping of the Moreau river country and in 1878 was interpreter in the U. S. court at Rapid City. I left there with the 7th U. S. Cavalry on the Dull Knife campaign in the Bad Lands and Sand Hills of Nebraska. Afterward I was a U. S. Pony Express rider from Ft. Pierre to Lance Creek Holes in Wyoming.

I have been government boss herder, government school farmer and in 1898 I was in Washington with a delegation of Sioux Indians and we shook hands with Pres. Wm. McKinley.

I was with a detachment which camped on Slim Buttes battlefield the day after hostilities ceased. We were dispatched to scout this region in 1877. In September 1878 I was detailed with Lieutenant Hoffman to make a map of the Slim Buttes territory.

I prize very much letters of endorsement which commend my services which were sent me voluntarily from C. J. Crandall, former Indian

School Superintendent; E. A. Darlington, Brig. Gen. Regiment 5; M. V. Wolf, Lower Brule Agency Farmer; Dr. Doane Robinson, Historian Emeritus of South Dakota. I value very much encouragement received from Geo. W. Webb, editor of "Winning of the West," published at St. Joseph, Mo., who has shown considerable interest in my experiences.

To all whom it may Concern:



Know ye, That Louis Dewitt  
 Private of 1st Detachment of U. S. Indian  
Company, (Company B) serving at Fort Bennett, D. T.,  
who was enrolled on the 1st day of September  
one thousand eight hundred and eighty  
to serve six months  
is hereby Discharged from the service of the United States  
this nineteenth day of May, 1881 at Fort  
Bennett, D. T., by reason of expiration of term of service  
(No objection to his being re-enlisted is known to exist)  
Character is Excellent  
Said Louis Dewitt was born in Port Davis  
in the State of Neb. or Pa. about five 8 years of age.  
His 5 feet 7 inches high, Dark complexion, Black eyes,  
Black hair, and by occupation, when enrolled, a Scout  
Given at Fort Bennett, D. T., this nineteenth day of  
May, 1881

EX-10 This certificate will be void should there be anything  
 in the conduct or general conduct of the soldier  
 rendering him unfit for the Army.  
 (A. O. O., No. 10)

Charles A. Mott  
 Captain 10th U. S. Infantry,  
 Commanding the Regt. Co. A

Reproduction of Honorable Discharge given De Witt in May, 1881

Note: Above material is gleaned from data furnished to Dept. of History in 1935 by Bert L. Hall.

## Leeper Family History

The early history of any pioneer settlement must of necessity follow the activities of its first settlers. Pioneer characters have been generally above the average in qualities of leadership and organization, and since have proven this ability by long years of public service to their communities. The history of Hughes county is no exception to this rule. Many people prominent in the early history of this county,

are still leaders of ability and it is fitting that these names should be recognized.

William J. Leeper was one of the pioneer residents of Hughes county who had previously spent many years in other parts of Dakota, coming first to Yankton in 1871. In a few years the news of the discovery of gold in the Black Hills sent thousands of people into the hitherto unsettled Indian territory. Mr. Leeper then left Yankton for Deadwood and participated in the gold rush there. He spent the next few years before coming to Hughes county at Fort Pierre, where he was engaged in business.

After leaving Fort Pierre he took up his first residence in Hughes county at Pierre. The town at that time was centered in the mud flats, bordering the Missouri river, and the early residents filed homestead claims on the ground above this where the present day "hill" residential and business section of Pierre is now located. Mr. Leeper settled on one of these homesteads, his claim containing the portion of land where the Hughes county court house is now located.

Pierre was a fast growing city and became the county seat of Hughes county. While residing in Pierre W. J. Leeper was on the board of county commissioners, this group of which he was a member, superintended the building of the first Hughes county court house.

An early edition of the Blunt Advocate records that W. J. Leeper was one of the first residents of Blunt, in Hughes county, coming in January, 1882. He had a large part in laying out and planning the original town, which rivalled surrounding ones as a trading center for the new territory.

After coming to Blunt he married Mrs. Katherine Congdon. They had two sons, Warren Seward Leeper, born in 1886, and Robert E. Leeper, born on 1893. Three years later in 1896 W. J. Leeper died and was buried in the cemetery at Blunt.

W. S. Leeper, who still resides in Blunt, has been engaged in the grain business in this locality for many years and is the postmaster at the present time. In 1908 he married Winifred Gunsalus of Blunt. They have three children, Virginia, now Mrs. L. B. Long, of Chancellor, S. D., Kathryn and Warren, who reside at Blunt.

R. E. Leeper married Mildred Freshom, of Blunt, in 1917. After living in Blunt for a few years they moved to Minneapolis, Minnesota where they now reside. They have one daughter, Shirley.

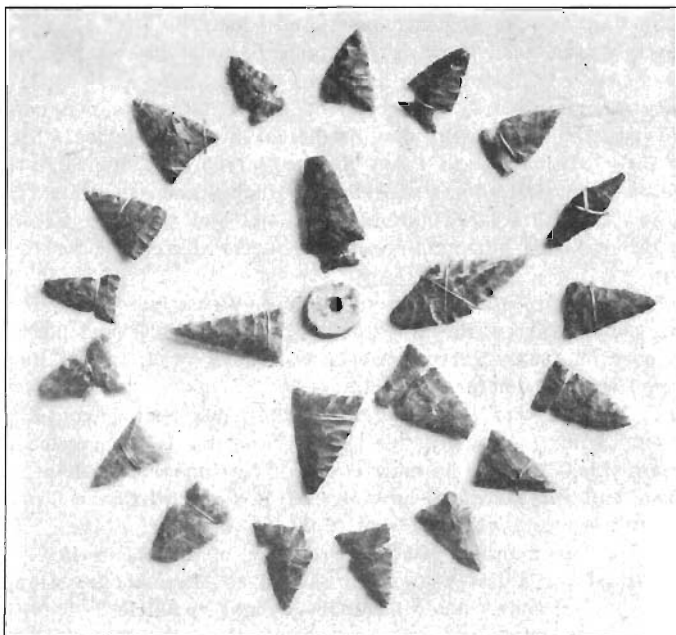
## Charles E. DeLand

Charles E. De Land, old time resident of Pierre, passed away some time Monday night at his home in the De Land building, where he occupied rooms, and maintained an office. Yesterday morning he was found dead in bed by a housekeeper who came to arrange his rooms, as was her daily custom.

Mr. De Land came to Pierre in the early '80's, and has continuously maintained a law practice in the city. He would have been 82 years

old next month, having been born in Kirkland township, Oneida county, New York, January 6, 1854. He was educated in Whitestown Seminary, and admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1878, subsequently he was admitted to practice in South Dakota in 1883, and opened his office in Pierre. He was the author of several law journals, has written several books based upon historical facts of the west, and a number of fiction novels. He traveled quite extensively at one period in his life, and belonged to a number of civic and social organizations of the city. He was president of the State Historical Society, reporter for the Supreme Court, and city attorney. At one time in the early days of this community he had charge of the business for the Western Town Lot Company, and was very active in the incorporation business in South Dakota before the laws were changed.

Mr. De Land never married, and leaves to mourn his demise as his closest relative, Miss Sophie G. De Land, a sister.—Daily Reminder, 1936.



De Land Ree Arrow Head Collection

## Jordan Family

Danforth Quint Jordan was born near Earlville, Illinois, May 3, 1851. Orphaned in childhood, he was reared by an older sister in the Kickapoo River Valley, Wisconsin, about forty miles from La Crosse.

When a young man he returned to Illinois and spent his summers working on a farm and his winters teaching school. It was during this period that he married Ella Florence Hobbs who had migrated from Portland, Maine, and she was also engaged in teaching. They farmed near Dwight. Dr. Leslie E. Keeley who became famous because of his cure for drunkenness lived near them.

In February, 1883, Mr. Jordan left his family in Chicago and came to Huron. The trip required 2 weeks owing to heavy snow blockades in Minnesota. R. R. rolling stock was insufficient to meet the demand and the party with which he was identified dared not all leave the coach at Mankato, fearing that the car would be returned to Chicago and they be left stranded in Minnesota.

May, 1883, found the Jordan family living in their first Dakota home at Blunt where Mr. Jordan was associated with the earliest paper published there.

In 1884 the Jordans left Hughes Co., and for eighteen years resided in Onida helping to establish that community.

Early in 1902 D. Q. Jordan came to Pierre to work on a set of abstract books for the Gas Belt Land and Abstract Co., and became their abstractor. Later he opened an office for himself and practised Land Law before the United States Land Office for several years.

In East Pierre Mr. Jordan purchased a house and five city lots, despite the oft repeated warning that not even grass would grow in that particular spot because of gumbo. Being skilled horticulturists the Jordans succeeded in making their premises one of Pierre's beauty spots. Some two dozen varieties of roses together with other flowers, shrubs, small fruits, apples and cherries gave abundant return for intelligent care.

Because of increasing deafness Mr. Jordan was compelled to close his office and about the beginning of the World War was employed as painter in the Pierre repair yards of the C. & N. W. R. R. He was retired at the age of seventy.

Thenceforth all his time was devoted to horticulture. He experimented with seedling apples and cherries and lived to sample the fruit from these trees. His self-planted black walnut came into bearing and a fine young orchard of apples and cherries was started.

Then came drought, grasshoppers and old age. The combination was too much for even his bold spirit. Desire failed and in November, 1935, Mr. and Mrs. Jordan went to live with their older daughter, Mrs. J. P. Williamson, in Onida. There Mrs. Jordan departed this life April, 11, 1936, following a paralytic stroke. Mr. Jordan joined her Jan. 4, 1937, because of heart failure following a bronchial attack.

—By Mrs. Ethel Samuel (a daughter).



## The Whitchers Arrive in 1908

C. C. Whitcher, wife and son, Mark, came in that year from Lisbon, N. H. Mr. Whitcher purchased Judge Corwin Mead's insurance business. In October, 1912 in partnership with Billie Borst, the Masters and Fuller furniture store was purchased. Mr. Borst had built Temple Court in 1908. The city offices were in the basement at that time. For a number of years Mr. Whitcher was a U. S. Court Commissioner. In 1914 he went to the west coast to engage in business. His son Mark has continued to manage the local furniture and insurance business. Mrs. Carrie Whitcher has not only been a tireless helper but has devoted much time to Red Cross activities. She assumed the duties of secretary of the Pierre-Hughes County Chapter in 1917. That organization was very active for a number of years and still exceeds its quota at each annual membership Roll Call.

Carrie is a devoted Eastern Star. Due to an accident on Dec. 22, 1934, she has been confined to her rooms in Temple Court. She maintains a perennial cheerful attitude and her many friends are pleased at signs of her improvement.

## Mike O'Brien Arrives, Too

Michael O'Brien, born in Iowa City in 1879, came to Blunt in July, 1906. He engaged in business there for 6 years but spent the next 18 years on the farm near there. Later he was in Canning 3 years and after that moved to Pierre. A blushing young lady, Lou Ella Grey, had arrived in the county 2 years before Mike and in 1911 he persuaded her to become his bride. The knot was tied at Highmore and has remained securely tied. Margery is the only child.

Mr. O'Brien has been a substantial citizen and was a close contender for the office of sheriff in 1936.

Others in Blunt who should be listed with the pioneers are Leon and Gus Howard who came early and stuck thru the fat and lean years in the hardware business and farming; they also maintained a blacksmith shop in connection with the implement business.

Within the last two years Charles Hess, Sr., passed away. Since early days he has been a familiar figure about town and was many years in the jewelry business. He farmed a quarter north of the Joe Higgins place for some time.

Joe Rein, living near the Sully county line, is a brother-in-law to Will and Herb Eckert, and is an old resident. His wife is dead. E. E. Stevens lived south of town for many years, in fact until his death in 1935.

Gordon Stewart has built up a well-improved farmstead near Felicia school west of town. Will McClravy should be among those named. Among the first who came and stuck were William and Thomas Jane. Thomas has a son, Fred, who farms outside of town. The elder Janes have retired and live in town. Mrs. Thomas Jane has been a patient sufferer from rheumatism for a long time. Their home exemplified honesty, thrift and religious zeal.

—M. O.

# HARROLD ADORNS THE LANDSCAPE

## Harry McQueen Writes

My father, E. R. McQueen came here in February of 1883 and established a home for the family, who came the latter part of March, and moved out on our homestead 2½ miles west of Harrold. I was then 12 years old and have lived in this county ever since. I attended the first school here in 1883-1884. I have seen the ups and downs of this country and am still alive and kicking. Although I have traveled east, west and south, there is no place like South Dakota for me and so guess I will stay it out. I am the only one in town at present, who has been here all these years.

Harrold was founded in the summer of 1883 on the banks of Medicine creek 42 miles east and north of Pierre and was named after Harrold R. McCullough, an officer of the C. & N. W. Ry. Mike Feeney, owner of the townsite at that time, sold out to a man named Cavanaugh for \$3,000, who was the founder of Harrold. Population in 1883 was 500 persons.

Woodruff, McGaffee, Lewis, Snider and Morrill operated the first grocery stores. E. R. McQueen and Company, the first hardware store and lumber yard. Byron Brady, the first saloon. H. O. Besancon, the first newspaper, the Harrold Star. Lichtenwallner, Erdman, James A. Bell, Forest G. Small, were first lawyers. The first postmaster, W. H. Harmon. Laird Norton & Co., Grigor & Wilcox, ran lumberyards. Hotels were Lilly, Randall, Sheldon. Farr & Beedle handled general merchandise. Smith was the first depot agent.



Harrold's first Fourth of July celebration in 1883 was a grand success. The weather was fine; the morning cannonade opened the day with a boom; at sunrise a beautiful large flag was stretched across Wyman Avenue. A stand for the speakers was arranged near the Sheldon House; the glee club opened the exercises by singing "America." G. F. Moulton, William Reading, F. P. Foster, B. F. Latta appeared on the program. W. L. Lichtenwallner gave the principal address extolling the merits of Dakota. Gallagher and Sheldon showed up well in the ball game. The horse races made a fine show. Van Valkenburg won the longest jump, 16 feet and 9 inches.

Following the display of fire works in the evening a grand ball was held in the Cox Hotel. William Summerside was Marshal of the day. The affair was a big success.

Here are some of the old timers still living: Addie E. Leach, 87 years old; Mrs. Sarah Summerside, 88; Mrs. Ruth Woodruff, Rapid City, 72; Mrs. Mike Feeney, 82; Ernest Nothdurft; Mrs. Carey Eisemann; W. A. Lichtenwallner, Los Angeles; Harry E. McQueen. The last named is the Mayor of Harrold, consisting of about three hundred population. Fred J. Suhn is clerk; A. V. Goodrich, treasurer.



Pierre University

In the fall of 1884 we moved to Pierre, where I went to high school under teachers Eppie McMillan and Prof. McClelland; also went to the Pierre University for a short term in 1888. Dr. Blackburn, Frank A. Farrar and Henry P. Wilber were instructors. My class mates were Emma and Glenn Wells, Justin Sprague, Winnie and Alice Geltz, Joe Geiger, Albert Deffenbach, Wilmer Nelson, Stillman Hudson, Sybil Samiss,

Addie Sebree, Fanny Kinne, Max Kehr, Zell Guthrie, Mary Davis, Elsie Gleason, Kruse Maddsen, John Cannon, Mrs. Chas. Blackburn, Jim Vestover, Tom Phillips and Maurice McMillan.

—Harry E. McQueen.

## Early Days in Hughes County

"They have just lynched one of the leading men of our new home town," was the statement with which father startled grandmother and me as he looked up from the newspaper he was reading while on the train returning to Harrold, Dakota Territory, where he had located the year before, in 1883, from a trip to New York State to bring the family west.

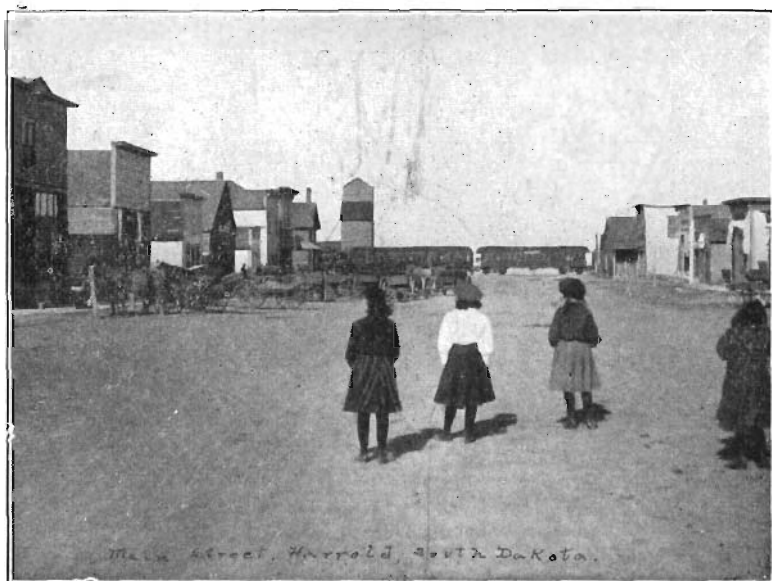
"What did they lynch him for?" I quaveringly asked.

"For killing a man with a hatchet."

This gruesome murder-lynching tragedy, recalled by most people locally, filled my youthful mind with some misgivings about the desirability of Hughes county as a place to build a new home, but these thoughts vanished after arriving in Harrold and being welcomed by the kindly, hospitable people who had located there, filled with bright hope for the future, and, needless to say, the Bell-Small tragedy did not serve as a true picture of the country or as an example of the ordinary pastime of its people.

The year before, 1882 saw a great influx of homesteaders. Occupied claim shacks were all over the country, and Harrold and Blunt, with trade territories reaching far to the north and south, were busy and prosperous. A marvelous crop was produced and everyone was happy and hopeful. Most of the people were not farmers—they were merely homesteaders. They mortgaged their homesteads for \$600—the standard homestead mortgage, those days—and drifted back to their former homes. A slump inevitably followed. The loan companies that foreclosed these mortgages, later sold the land for \$100 per quarter. Later the upward trend came, supported by actual farmers and stockmen.

Everyone before leaving the east had acquired an exaggerated idea of everything in the west. There was fear of cyclones, and the school board at Harrold had a cyclone cave large enough to hold all the children and constructed so that they could reach it in about two jumps from the school house door. Another terror for the new arrivals was prairie fires, especially after the great fire that burned down through Potter, Sully and Hughes counties, creating such destruction that contributions of clothes and food from the east were acceptable. Then there were the springs when thousands of cattle died, and other years when there was great loss by cattle disease. These are the high points of hardship and misfortune which stand out prominently in memory, but it must be borne in mind that along with them were highlights of Happiness, Prosperity and Development.



Main Street, Wyman Avenue in Harrold before the fire in 1909,  
Looking North

But I have been asked to relate a personal experience:

#### An Indian Scare

In the fall of 1891, as a result of a "Messiah" craze among the Indians of the Rosebud, Pine Ridge, and Cheyenne, there appeared danger of a real outbreak, which partly developed, and came to a climax in the Battle of Wounded Knee. With the Crow Creeks and the Lower Brules only a few miles south of us, there was considerable uneasiness at Harrold.

This uneasiness arose to intense alarm early one evening when a one-armed frontier cattleman, Sam Bagman, whose ranch was on the border of the Crow Creek reservation, drove into Harrold and gave out the news that the Crows, in war paint, and newly armed, were assembling and the supposition was that they were going to join the Cheyennes. In this event, their direct route would be through the town of Harrold.

The alarm the report created can hardly be realized in these peaceful times. The word was hurriedly passed around and the townspeople assembled at the Sheldon House—later the Hall Hotel—to establish a point of defense, bringing with them every firearm there was in town. As darkness enveloped the town, the Indians from whom the townspeople had for several years bought plums and fence posts, seemed transformed into bloody savages, and the nervousness of the people crowded into the hotel increased.

Two other young fellows of my age, 16, and myself, were appointed to stand guard just beyond the outskirts of town on the road leading in from the south, from which direction it was believed the Indians would come about midnight. Our selection as guardsmen was no compliment to our prowess. We were instructed to fire three shots when we saw the Indians approaching, and then run for the hotel. It was argued that we could probably run faster than the older men.



Redmen in Full Regalia

There was enough thrill in the situation to keep us watchful and on our toes the first few hours, but when midnight had passed and the moon came out in full, and no Indians had shown up, the job became irksome, and we began looking around for a little excitement. A short distance from where we were stationed was a lone house occupied by a half-witted fellow (or was he?) named Dick Spillman, the only person who had declined to take the Indian scare seriously and had remained at home. We decided to give him a scare. Forgetting that three shots in quick succession had been the signal agreed upon to give the people in the hotel warning of the approach of the Indians, we each took a shot at the chimney of Dick's house.

The shots brought results—immediately, bareheaded and half clothed, Dick dashed out of the house, picked up an ax and took after us, filling the air with crazed yells. At the same time his yells stampeded a bunch of horses grazing out of our sight on the opposite side of the house. They, too, followed the same course we were taking toward the hotel. We had no time to observe that the horses were not mounted by Indians, but our imaginations were working as fast as our legs. Directly in our path was the drainage ditch from the artesian well. We missed the culvert and floundered into and through the ditch, dropping our guns for which we had no use. All we wanted was more legs and more time.

Dick and the horses stopped at the ditch but we could still feel

them fanning our coattails as we burst through the office door of the hotel. Our violent entrance so closely following the signal shots produced pandemonium. Children shrieked and women fainted, while men dashed to the windows and thrust their guns through to start the defense. Voluminous explanations followed almost immediately, but the explanations fell flat. We three guardsmen were not received with honors. Women and girls did not fall upon our necks and embrace us. No laurel wreaths were planted upon our brows. I recall that several of the agitated men conferred some kind of a title or name upon me, but it was not "Davy Crockett." Other heroes who took part in the defense of Harrold, whose names I recall now, were Ward Sheldon, Harry McQueen, John Whaley, Orrin Ramsdell, W. A. Litchenwallner, Col. T. H. Leach and others.

The armed warriors that Bagman had seen were a group of Indians returning from Fort Thompson agency where, along with their regular food issue, they had received some nice, new bright cooking utensils, which glistening in the sun, appeared to be new firearms to the overwrought mind of Bagman.

—Claire E. Besancon—Black Hills Printery.

## J. A. McGaffee Obituary

The Unseen Guest entered our midst silently Tuesday, Dec. 11th at 11 a.m., and called another of Harrold's oldest and most beloved citizens. The call was answered by James Adelbert McGaffee who was born at Naples, Candagua county, New York, on Jan. 15, 1849. In 1857 he moved with his parents to Somerset Center, Mich., where he lived until the spring of 1883, when as a young man he came to Harrold. He held a partnership in one of the first stores built in Harrold, but lived on his claim south of town.

On Feb. 24, 1885, he was married to Cynthia Ann Jackson, of Pittsford, Mich., and he with his bride settled on their claim in Webster Twp. Later they moved to the old home five miles south of town where his family grew to maturity. Ten years ago he came to Harrold where he resided at the time of his death.

To this home were born eight children, James having preceded his father in death on Oct. 7, 1918. He leaves to mourn his loss, his wife and seven children; Lee of Highmore, Mrs. Etta Grove of Ellensburg, Wash., Edna of Chicago. Evangelistic Institute, Perry of Rousseau, Christy and Walter at home, and Clinton who is pastor of the Methodist church at White River. Also a nephew and family at Rousseau and ten grandchildren, besides a host of sorrowing friends who will miss his Christian fellowship and righteous influence.

For many years he officially filled township and school positions of responsibility, and entered into the various phases of his community life. Mr. McGaffee with his wife joined the Methodist church of Harrold 32 years ago; their home always being a haven for pastors, evangelists

and all Christian workers. Of the present church he was one of the charter members, an ardent worker and supporter of the doctrines of Methodism, experiencing the essentials for an abundant entrance at the Master's coming. The present church and parsonage stand as a memorial to his prayers, his labors, his gifts and his continuous interest in things eternal. He was a constant reader of his Bible and a deep student of church literature. Mr. McGaffee has been a continuous member of the local church board since its organization and his wise counsel and abundant labors will be greatly, greatly missed. Truly he was a workman that needeth not be ashamed.

—Dec. 20, 1934, Harrold Journal.

## An Early Cattle Man

My husband, John Laughlin, came to Hughes County in the fall of 1883, and filed on a homestead south of Harrold, in the township of Webster. We lived on this homestead until 1913.

I came to South Dakota in May, 1884 with an infant son.

My husband was a stone cutter by trade, and continued working at the trade after homesteading here. He went to Chicago and cut stone for the Chicago Postoffice, also worked in Winona and Rochester, Minnesota, cutting stone for the large buildings there. I remained in South Dakota on the claim, and he made trips back and forth in the summer but spent the entire winter in South Dakota.

We farmed the first years we were here, and then in 1888, we started in the cattle business. My husband purchased cattle in Iowa and was just returning home with them at the time of the big blizzard of 1888. He was layed over at Tracy, Minnesota with the cattle for a week, because of the severe storms, but was fortunate enough to not lose any of the cattle. We were also lucky to have plenty of food and coal, so that we did not suffer any during the winter storms.

In the fall of 1890 there was an Indian scare, so I took my family of four small children and went to Iowa, and remained there with relatives through the winter. My husband and brother remained on the ranch, they gained friendship with the Indians, and on various occasions, fed them and traded with them.

In 1892 we had a very hard winter, and many people lost lots of stock, due to lack of feed and poor barns.

The winter of 1895-96 my husband was ill, and in bed for seven months. We had great difficulty getting medical attention for we had to call a physician from Pierre, forty miles away, and in those days the mode of travel was very slow. He recovered and was able to be out in June. With the kind help of our neighbors we managed to get along without any special hardships. We had a very severe winter and a cold late spring and it took a lot of hard work to keep the stock from perishing. We never farmed very extensively but always put up about four or five hundred tons of hay each year.



In 1910-11 the hay crop was scarce but we harvested the Russian thistles and stacked all the available hay. The hay crop was much better here than in the western section of the state, for my husband wintered about three hundred head of cattle for a western rancher.

In the fifty-one years I have lived here in South Dakota, I have never experienced dust storms that were to be compared with the dust of the past one and one-half years. We had lots of hot winds in the summer but not accompanied by the dust.

In the summer of 1916 we had a very severe wind storm, blowing away from us, an entire section of hay that had just been raked. In the winter we had many blizzards with snow two or three feet deep on the level.

My husband was lost in several of these blizzards but in each case gave the horses a free rein and they went straight home.

We sold our homestead in 1913, and moved to Hyde County where we lived for nine years. My husband passed away that year and I moved to Harrold and built a residence where I have made my home since that date.

—Katie M. Laughlin.

(Mother of Mrs. Florence Martin, of Harrold.)

## William Summerside

George Summerside, a civil engineer, and his wife, Mary, English people living in London went to Pisa, Italy, where, hired by George Stephenson, inventor of the first successful steam engine, in 1814, laid out a railroad from there to Florence. While there a son, William, was born to them.

When William was 8 years of age they moved to the U. S. and after a short visit with relatives in Boston located on a farm near Black Earth, Wisconsin.

At the age of 19 William joined the Union army as a private in Battery M, First Wisconsin Heavy Artillery. When discharged at the end of the war he attended a business college in Chicago for about a year and for the next few years worked as a clerk in stores in Minnesota and Necedah, Wisconsin.

In 1869 he moved to Neillsville, Wisconsin, where he and a brother-in-law engaged in the general merchandise business and in cutting a million feet of pine logs for Governor C. C. Washburn.

In 1883 his doctor ordered a change of climate so he and his family came to Harrold, South Dakota, and engaged in the lumber, hardware, real estate and ranching business. He took an active part in promoting the welfare of the community.

Mr. Summerside was elected a member of the first territorial legislature and twice a member of the state legislature.

In 1909 he bought a home in Pierre. He passed away on August 15, 1915, leaving his wife's sons, John of Harrold and Frank of Redfield and

daughters, Georgia of Harrold, and Elizabeth (now Mrs. Herbert Hepperle of Berkeley, Calif.); two daughters having died in infancy and a daughter, Faith (Mrs. Haven Bradford) having died in Hawarden, Iowa, her home, in 1901.

## Landmark Is Removed

Another one of the old buildings of this community disappeared this week when workmen completed the demolishing of the building formerly used by Jacob Winckler as a store. The building was erected in 1884 by Thos. H. Leach and Moses Young who conducted a hardware store and a small banking business there for a number of years. Later Young left for California after which Mr. Leach disposed of it to Mr. Pettyjohn. Jacob Winckler later had possession until his death. The county has acquired the property through tax title and relief workers have torn it down for removal to the County Home where it will be used in the erection of another building.—Harrold Journal, Feb. 7, 1935.

## Harrold Churches

Dear Mr. Hall:

In compliance with your request for some information concerning Harrold churches, I am sending the history of St. John's Catholic Church.

As early as May 26, 1882, the Rev. B. H. Bunning was a missionary priest sent to Harrold from Pierre. At that time St. Peter's Mission, as his parish was designated, included Pierre, Rousseau, on Medicine Creek, Ft. Pierre, Ft. Sully and Ft. Bennett. During September, of that year, the Mission was extended by Bishop Marty and comprised Pierre, Rousseau, Canning, Blunt, Harrold, Holabird, Highmore, Ree Heights, Wessington, Miller, St. Lawrence, Wolsey, Ft. Pierre and Ft. Bennett; in a word the counties of Hughes, Sully and Stanley, an area of 6,699 square miles and also a part of Hyde, Hand and Beadle.

These stations were attended from Pierre during the pastorate of Rev. B. H. Bunning.

The history of Harrold church is closely allied with that of Pierre for a number of years and was served by Rev. J. A. Bushman, Rev. Placidus Zarn, Rev. Fintan and Rev. Straetten.

The first services were held in the home of Mike Feeney, now deceased. Mrs. Mike Feeney recalls with much feeling the unselfish devotion of the reverend gentlemen of that early date.

The Church of St. John the Evangelist, in Harrold, was dedicated in 1904 and was served from Pierre or the Mission at Stephan by Rev. Ambrose Mattingly O. S. B., Rev. Fox, Rev. De Guey and Rev. Kelley. Rev. Walloch was the celebrant in 1912 to 1914; Rev. Harty 1914 to 1916, Rev. Kelley 1912 to 1914. Pastors also came from Miller. Rev. DeGuey was from that city.

The first resident priest was Rev. O'Brien, who was in charge from 1919-1926. He was followed by Rev. Coyne, whose pastorate was from

1926 to 1931. At that time Rev. Kappenman was appointed to serve in Harrold and is still serving the congregation in Harrold.

At present the parish includes the members from Blunt, Harrold and Highmore. Services are held in the three churches each week, with many special services at stated times.

The membership from Highmore and its history will probably be given in Hyde county history.

That portion of the parish in Hughes county numbers about 275 souls. The priest resides in Harrold, driving from this central location to his pastoral duties.

## Pastors of Harrold Methodist Church

	When Appointed
J. W. Hartley.....	Oct., 1907
Harold P. K. Cornish.....	1908
Leon S. Koch.....	1909
Geo. T. Matthews.....	1910
J. T. B. Smith.....	1911
Rev. Frizzelle.....	1912
J. Elymas Williams.....	1913
P. H. Weston.....	1914
G. A. Trodie.....	1915
C. D. Waters.....	1917
B. K. Bierer.....	May, 1919
U. B. Arnold.....	1919
E. J. Prosser.....	Oct., 1920
Arthur Mayer.....	1921
A. H. Rux.....	June 1, 1924
J. W. Walton.....	June, 1925
Edward E. Wilson.....	Oct., 1926
Forest B. Hebron.....	1927
Kermit E. Earles.....	1928
C. R. Fountain.....	1929
F. O. Hill.....	1930
J. E. Washburn.....	1932
Walter S. Van.....	1936

Taken from official record, book of church records.

## Immanuel Ev. Lutheran Congregation, Harrold, S. D.

Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Congregation, member of the Ev. Luth. Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and other States, was organized March 20, 1910. It has been bi-lingual, both German and English being used in services from the beginning, during the time since its organization, and both languages are being used today, but the use of the English

language has become predominant of late years. At the time of the organization the Rev. E. A. Dautenhahn was resident pastor and remained in charge until about July, 1911. Since that time the following have served:

Student Pastor, R. Deye, Aug. 1911 to Aug., 1912.

Student Pastor, Geo. C. Ehlers, Sept., 1912 to Aug., 1914.

Student Pastor, C. Thom. Spitz, Sept., 1913 to Aug. 1914.

Student Pastor, R. C. M. Felter, Sept., 1914 to Aug., 1915.

Resident Pastor, C. Thom. Spitz, Sept. 1915 to March, 1920.

Resident Pastor, W. H. Schultz, Oct. 1920 to July, 1921.

Student Pastor, A. E. Going, Sept., 1922 to Aug., 1923.

Student Pastor, H. C. Stahnke, Sept. 1923 to July, 1924.

Resident Pastor, H. M. Bauer, Aug., 1924 to March, 1928.

Resident Pastor, A. Sander, July, 1928 to Oct., 1931.

Since Nov., 1931, the present incumbent, Paul F. Siegel, is in charge of the congregation, resident pastor.

During the pastorate of the Rev. A. Sander, a language disagreement caused a split in the congregation and the drought of recent years has further greatly reduced the membership.

## Zion American Lutheran

Organized March 17, 1929. The first minister was H. Kover, who took charge in the fall of 1930 and stayed about a year. W. A. Humel came in 1931 and was here about 3½ years. O. H. Voelke arrived the first of June, 1935. Membership, 130.

—Mrs. F. W. Pyncheon, Harrold.

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## The Big Blizzard

By C. J. Enstad, Highmore, S. Dak.

January 12th, 1888 dawned clear and warm, bidding fair to being an ideal day for school children. Miss Calista Hall with her pupils, Mary Peterson (Ellerton), Carrie Peterson (Eisemann), Albert, Magnus, and John Enstad, and Ed Garrett, had gathered at the school house a few miles south west of Harrold. School had just been called when out of the north west came a rushing, roaring monster to pour out its fury upon an unsuspecting world, and to blow itself into history as the blizzard of '88.

The day wore on with no signs of the storm abating. The Enstad boys fearing that their father, who was getting along in years, might attempt to come for them, asked to be allowed to go home. Assuring their teacher that they could find the way home, she let the four boys go. After what seemed hours of battling the elements and struggling to follow the creek bed, and with their strength nearly spent, they finally reached the Enstad home where Ed stayed for the night. Miss Hall remained in the school house through the night with the two little girls. It was a happy teacher that greeted the four boys the next morning.

# CANNING CONTRIBUTES

## Canning, South Dakota

Founded 1883

The town of Canning was founded and platted in 1883 by George Harris (County Commissioner in 1883 and in 1884 was the third Hughes County Sheriff). The town of Canning was named for George Canning, Chief Engineer of the C. & N. W. Ry. Company. At that time Canning had a population of approximately 275.

The leading business houses in 1883 consisted of three hotels, 2 restaurants, two hardware stores, two saloons, one meat market and one barber shop. M. E. Billings was the first grocery merchant in Canning.

On the 27th day of February, 1885, the Winnebago and the Crow Creek Reservation were opened up for settlement—the village of Canning took on a new life and the population was increased by about 75 persons. Later, owing to drought conditions, the town began to dwindle away.

J. W. Pyne built a first class flour mill (hydraulic power) which was operated for about three years and then went out of business because of drought conditions.

The present population of Canning in 1934 is about 75; and the leading business houses consist of two stores, Post Office and two garages.

Some of the old timers were:

M. E. Billings—Grocery Store

Martin Luther—Grocery Store

Scott Thompson—Hardware Store

Zack Thompson—Hardware Store

Mr. Berry—Hardware Store

Socrates Drew—Established Canning Bank in 1884

Mr. Evans—Restaurant

Richard Opey—Barber Shop

Fred Deringdinger—Real Estate Office

Ole Beam—Saloon

John O'Dowd—Saloon

Mr. Stacy—Butcher Shop

Walter Stevens—Carpenter

John Kramer—C. & N. W. Ry.

The above is a contribution from John Kramer who has been a continuous resident of Canning since 1883.

## CANNING

From the Oct. 13, 1883 file, Blunt Advocate

This compact and beautifully located little village is situated on the main line of the C. & N. W. Ry. in the Medicine Valley about 10 miles

southwest of Blunt, surrounded by a very large area of the richest farming lands in southern Dakota, and as it lies adjoining the Old Winnebago Indian Reservation, its citizens and merchants will be among the first to receive the benefits of the vast tract of land now awaiting only the President's proclamation for its final opening to actual settlers. Canning has fine water power, with fall sufficient to operate a grist mill of four run of buhrs, by the virtue of which a mill in the near future is assured. The town also affords a fine opportunity to the right man for the manufacturing of bricks, having all the natural advantages requisite to the successful carrying on of this branch of the industry. The citizens of Canning are composed of thoroughly stirring people, of whom the following may be classed as the foremost:

George W. Harris, principal owner of the town-site, is a large stock raiser of the vicinity and owns over 900 acres of land.

Miles E. Redick, also one of the owners of the town-site, is station agent and Postmaster.

M. E. Billings seems to be comfortably located and doing a nice business in the grocery, flour and feed line.

O'Crowley & Barry are the hardware dealers. They carry a very large stock and apparently receiving a liberal share of the public patronage.

## Canning Man Has Rare Book

Book Was Published In 1865, and Contains Papers and Messages of  
Abraham Lincoln

One evening when snow bound at his home in Canning, Leon Redick was sitting comfortably by the family radio and happened to hear on one program that there was a great demand for rare books.

After a brief meditation, he recalled to himself that his father was an old Civil War officer, and was a great lover of books.

After searching around through the attic at his home that evening he came upon a dust laden book which was among his father's possessions, entitled "The Life and Public Service of Abraham Lincoln."

This book includes all state papers, including the speeches, addresses, messages, letters and proclamations and the closing scenes, connected with his life and death. Anecdotes and personal reminiscences of President Lincoln together with steel portraits and other illustrations are also shown in this rare find.

This book was published in 1865, at which time the New York Times was then in the 15th year of its publication, and was then known as one of the most firmly established and successful newspapers in the United States.

Though this book is in a rather tattered condition, and shows water stains, it may prove to be of exceptional value to the Redick family.

## What Happened to John Kramer

Fifty years ago Horace Greeley said, "Go West young man, go West." Mr. Kramer took this advice and came to Canning in 1883 where he has been living ever since. He and other old settlers deserve much credit for their strong determination to stick it out through all the hardships that befell them. It was about fifty years ago that he helped construct the railroad through Canning. He has faithfully served the company many years—most of the time as section boss. The first train that went through was not as efficient, and it didn't have as many cars as the trains that run now. He thinks it is quite a jump from the old-fashioned steam locomotive to the present electric trains. At any rate it has more speed, silence and power. These trains have helped somewhat to make Canning more lively although Mr. Kramer regrets that it is so dead compared to what it used to be. Two hundred and fifty people lived here when they first came. Houses both large and small dotted the hills. In the days of the horse and buggy there used to be many dances. This form of amusement took the place of movies.

When the dry seasons came the people became so discouraged, that most of them pulled up stakes and went back to their native states. Mrs. Kramer's brother sold his homestead claim of one hundred and sixty acres for ninety dollars. Many others did likewise. When so many people were leaving, the land was reopened to settlement. This time Mr. Kramer only had to live on the homestead one day out of every month in order to hold it. They had more than their share of hardships too. The roads and other means of transportation were poor; therefore, it was hard for them to get their products to market. They used to raise sugar cane and take it down to the sorghum mill which was right across the creek from where Doty's now live. Some of the old machinery is still there. A big tunnel was dug through the hills to use in the mill. Rather close to the mill was a large still. The liquor made here was sold in the saloons of Canning. Besides the saloons, Canning had other houses of business; namely, a blacksmith shop, a drug store, Doctor Meyers' office, three hotels, two restaurants and two land offices.

The Indians often gave them scares. When the two Indian reservations were opened, the Indian warriors used to come to Canning and have their war dances.—Anna Jorgensen.

## Experiences of Mr. George Coates

Mr. Coates came to Canning in the 80's. He had many thrilling experiences. The following is what he told me when I visited him.

Canning was established in 1880 when a railroad was put through by a civil engineer named Canning. This engineer surveyed out the place where the railroad was to be built. A railroad station was built along the track, north of where Clayton Nye's house now stands. There was also a water supply tank there.

Canning met its first boom, under Pres. Arthur's administration when he opened the Winnebago Reservation, south of town. This Reservation was opened by proclamation in 1885. On March 4, a new president was elected and he closed the reservation, after it had been open about sixty days. Before this reservation had been opened, 1000 Indians camped along the ridge waiting and protesting against the opening of it. After it was opened many white settlers also rushed in. In 1886, after the reservation had been closed, soldiers marched from Ft. Sully, removed the settlers from the reservation and marched on down to the Big Bend. The people that were forced off, were paid by the government. This helped them for they all needed money. Seven families remained on the reservation.

There was also a flour mill in Canning; the building was wooden, but later it fell, so it was replaced by a stone building in 1888, but this building burned down. A creamery was then erected. Mr. Estal Pyne was the one who operated the flour mill. The power to run this mill was gained by digging a tunnel through the hill and connecting it with the spring on the other side. Mr. Kramer helped dig this tunnel.

Mr. Stoddard started an irrigation garden on the place where Doty's live. He received the water to irrigate it through pipes connected with the spring. These pipes still remain and can easily be seen.—Ida Patzer.

## From Mace Samco

I have been asked to give an account of myself since coming into the state. Our family came to Blunt the spring of 1883 from Clinton, Iowa, where I was born the fall of 1875. My father came to Blunt the spring of 1882 to file on a homestead and filed on S.E. of 35, Summit Township, Sully County. We lived there until the fall of 1888 and moved to Blunt, and the spring of 1889 moved north of Pierre where Mrs. Pietrus now lives. My father passed away the summer of 1890 and my mother decided to move to Pierre. She moved a house we owned at Blunt (now the Bert Hall home in East Pierre) and lived there until she disposed of it in 1915. My mother and sister, who is Mrs. Chas. Stough, moved to the west coast and my mother died at the remarkable age of 95 years.

As a young man I worked at anything I could get to do. John Erickson hired me as a flunky behind the counter in his restaurant, the old Owl restaurant as most of you old timers know. I worked some time for John and one night after work he came to me and said, "Mace, how would you like clerking in a store?" Of course, I was all ears and thought that would be fine. John said, "Mr. Lockhart would like to have you clerk in his store." So I went to work at once and worked for him eight years or until he sold out. While working in the store I took a fancy to a young lady and married her. She was a South Dakota product as she was born at Sioux Falls. We have 4 children that have grown into man and womanhood.



In the spring of 1910 I bought the W. S. Nye business, a general store at Canning where I have resided up to the present time. Credit is due John Erickson and J. L. Lockhart for the friendship they gave me as a young man and started me out on the right road to success. I am the same Mace Samco you old timers knew at Blunt 54 years ago.

## Former Canning Resident Dies

Hot Springs, March 19, 1936—J. H. Gould, 87, Civil war veteran who, as a boy of 13 years was said to have increased his age to become a drummer boy in the union troops, was dead today.

Last Civil war veteran at the Battle Mountain sanitorium, John Hamilton Gould died here Tuesday, the day before his 88th birthday, of old age infirmities.

Born in Ontario, Canada, his career included military life, book selling, wood turning, commercial traveling, ranching, real estate work and managing a general store.

L. B. Gould, a surviving son, lives in Portland, Ore.

Mr. Gould is well known in this territory, having for nearly twenty years, been in the farming and ranching business near Canning. He was a well known figure in county politics, having served at one time on the county board.

## James Elwood DeHart

James Elwood DeHart, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. William DeHart, was born in the state of Ohio July 29, 1858 and passed from this life Friday, January 18, 1935 at 4:50 A. M., at the age of 76 years, 5 months and 19 days.

His childhood days were spent in Ohio, moving to Illinois when but a lad. Later he moved to Indiana and spent several years of his life in that state. He came to South Dakota in 1881, two years preceding his parents and family, locating near Blunt.

He leaves to mourn his passing four brothers: Rolland, Lyman, Scott and Charles and one sister, Mrs. Alta Thompson, all of Canning, and many other relatives and friends. His father preceded him in death in 1891 and his mother followed ten years later, also three brothers, Arthur, Andrew and William.

## The Deharts

William and Lovina Dehart came from North Rhode, Ind. in 1883 and settled in Blunt. Jim, the oldest son, came to Pierre in 1881 and later located 3 miles north of Canning on a homestead, where he lived for 7 years. He then made his home in Deadwood and Canning until his death on January 18, 1935.

William homesteaded north of Canning in 1883 and lived there for

15 years, engaging in farming and stock raising. He then moved to the old George Harris place just west of Canning. Roll, Liman, Scott, Andrew, Arthur, Alta and Charles are the other children. Andrew, Willie and Arthur are deceased. Those living reside in Canning.

Twenty-five years ago Jim ran a big ranch for W. W. Waite in Good-water township in Sully county. He farmed a thousand acres and ran from 200 to 300 cattle. Mr. Waite was interested in the Hughes County Bank, Blunt, which started in 1882 and has now been closed over 20 years. William the father died January 10, 1891. His wife passed away March 14, 1901 and both are buried at Blunt.

#### Obituary

Mrs. Lovina Dehart, a highly esteemed resident of Canning, after a short illness, died at her home Thursday morning, March 14th, 1901, aged 63 years, 6 months and 17 days.

She was born in Coshocton Co., Ohio, August 27, 1837. She was married to William Dehart, March 10, 1856. She leaves eight children, seven sons and one daughter.

At an early age she embraced religion and united with the Christian church and lived a kindly generous life.

Her last hours were calm and peaceful and we feel that she now knows "How beautiful it is to be with God" and the loved ones who have gone before.

Although she has passed from life, she lives in the thoughts, the affections of many.

Bright, fragrant flowers were all about her, fond tributes to her memory from her many friends, while she is "resting sweetly resting."

Jesus has called her hence, to bloom

In Paradise, more fair,

His own immortal bower, to shed

A richer influence there.

A Friend.

## The Nye and Coates Families

Thomas Nye and family came to Hughes County in 1886 from Wisconsin. He filed on land 2 miles south and  $\frac{3}{4}$  miles west of Canning; here he farmed for several years until he disposed of his land, and moved out of the county. His son Willard stayed in the county as a farmer and stock raiser. Later he located  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile west of Canning. He engaged in banking and other interests in Canning.

He crossed the wide river into a more blessed world in 1931. His son, Clayton, operates the old home ranch and Mrs. Nye, his widow, lives in a cottage in Canning.

George Coates came to Dakota from Scotsville, New York, in 1885. For a number of years he lived three miles west of Canning where he was foreman of the McDonald horse ranch. At one time he was also

in the sheep business. In later life he served several terms as county commissioner. Mr. Coates read much and took an active interest in public affairs, although handicapped by excessive weight and a permanently disabled foot.

One of the largest funerals held in the Canning church assembled for the last rites for George Coates. The service was conducted by Rev. Benjamin Schwab, of Pierre.

## The Redicks

Albert Redick was wed to Edna Willis in 1883. They first lived in Hughes County on the homestead of Miles Redick, Albert's brother, two miles northwest of Canning. Albert later moved to Canning and ran a store; he was also depot operator in the early days. Later they moved to the river near where the Baade place now is and remained there for a number of years. In 1925 they moved to Arkansas. Mr. Redick died in 1934 and his body was returned to Blunt for burial. His widow resides at Perry, Ark. with her son, Will. Bert Redick is in Portland, Oregon; Myra is dead; Dot is Mrs. Homer Dwiggin; Jenny Gunderson is in Huron; Edna Bloomenrader lives in Highmore; Leon is in Washington.

The Redick family was well known throughout the county and their many friends will be pleased to get this reminder about them.

—Alta Thompson.

### Pastors at Canning

Alta Thompson has furnished the names of the following as being pastors of the Canning community church.

Manford Ash;—Works; Roy Kofski; Bert Rayson; Gordon Granger; —Trodi; W. F. Doty; Hannah Groseth; Roemeg;—Colson;—Pryther;—Davis;—Hood; Harry F. Taplin.

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## “The Challenge of Our Pioneers”

Much has been accomplished by our Founders in achieving the real objectives of the National Congress. New goals have been reached. Difficulties have been met and overcome. The path of the pioneers has not always been smooth, but it has pointed toward a definite goal—the goal of child welfare.

We accept the challenge of the pioneers who turned their patient ox-teams to the west and builded there a home.

“Staunch hearts had they, these builders of our prairie homes,  
They builded well and into the firm fabric of their dreams,  
They wove the prairies' tranquil peace, the strength of rugged hills,  
Their faith in God, themselves, and this fair land.”—Gertrude E. Flyte.

—S. D. Parent Teacher, Jan., 1937.

# RURAL HUGHES RESPONDS

## Hughes County Rural School Assn.

The oldest written record we have of this organization was in 1928. Apparently it was formed in the fall of 1927, with the following officers elected: Josephine Bos, president; Anna O. Hall, vice president; Wm. C. Buol, secretary-treasurer.

**PURPOSE:** The educational advancement of the rural schools in Hughes county.

**MEMBERSHIP & DUES:** Anyone interested in the above objective was eligible for membership upon payment of dues; at the beginning they were set at \$1.50. Later anyone paying the S.D.E.A. dues of \$1.50 was accepted into the membership without further charge.

**ANNUAL OBJECTIVES:** Each fall an executive committee of 5 members is set up. The county superintendent and president of the organization are automatically members; 3 more are selected by the president, one to be from each rural commissioner district. They recommend objectives or projects for the year but final action is taken by the membership of the organization which may accept, change or reject the various proposals.

Here are samples of projects which have been adopted. Exhibits, Y.C.L. and P.T.A. extension, teachers' chorus, newsletters, speaking and spelling contests, better penmanship, compiling a bibliography for unit study, compiling a Hughes County History.

The officers for the years following 1927-28 are:

- 1928-29 Orva R. Olson, president; Ethel Byrum, vice president; Claribel Bronemann, secretary-treasurer.
- 1929-30 Mrs. Ethel Kinyon, president; Martha Carlin, vice president; Marie Sias, secretary-treasurer.
- 1930-31 Mrs. Evangeline Dolan, president; Mazen Owens, vice president; Orville Hoefer, secretary-treasurer.
- 1932-33 Mrs. Marjorie Calhoon, president; Clara Goglin, vice president; Blanche Crow, secretary-treasurer.
- 1932-33 Mrs. Marjorie Calhoon, president; Clara Goglin, vice president; Delila J. Bane, secretary-treasurer.
- 1933-34 Alice H. Westover, president; Evelyn McCall, vice president; Clara Goglin, secretary; Zetta Laughlin, treasurer.
- 1934-35 Carol Gunnison, president; Katherine Bruce, vice president; Stella Stephenson, secretary; Zetta Laughlin, treasurer.
- 1935-36 Mildred Roda, president; Ethel Robley, vice president; Luella Siegel, secretary; Mary Ellen Byrum, treasurer.
- 1936-37 Ethel Robley, president; Katherine Bruce, vice president; Kathryn Hogan, secretary-treasurer.

## "Tribute To The Pioneer Mother"

We cannot begin to bestow upon you the crown that you have so graciously won. You have always been the hub upon which all great civilization has revolved.

We love to glance upon your strong courage, to leave a good comfortable home, to follow and help your venturesome mate build and settle a new country. Oh! the heartaches and the homesickness that you have endured. We love those toil-worn hands; hands that have worked diligently and soothed many a sad and discouraged heart.

Your perseverance, love, kindness, ingenuity, purity, hospitality, devotedness, and strength of character have withstood the raging storm of time. You have laid the firm foundation for this splendid development of ours.

You have handed to us modern daughters, a torch of fine achievement. Let us hold it high.—Sylvia Edge.

### P. T. A. In Hughes County

The idea of parents and teachers working together in the interest of the child is not new. The headmaster of a school in London several centuries ago wrote: "Teachers and parents should be linked in amity and continual conference for their common charge."

In 1897 Mrs. Theodore Birney and Mrs. Phoebe Hearst called a meeting of mothers in Washington, D. C. and put the idea into concrete form by organizing the National Congress of Parents and Teachers.

In the forty years since, the movement has spread into every state and on to Hawaii, Alaska and District of Columbia.

The P. T. A. is altruistic in its objectives; it is non-sectarian, non-political and non-commercial.

South Dakota has more than 11,000 members comprised in 160 units.

We read and hear much these days that parents should be trained for the job of parenthood; that they need education along lines of child study so that the child and his problems might be better understood, and that he might be given wiser guidance in his physical, mental and moral development, and in his social adjustment.

A parent-teacher association, together with its study group and the splendid articles in the National Parent-Teacher Magazine (which is the official organ of the P. T. A.) provides one means for obtaining this education—and it is within reach of all.

Hughes county teachers are ever alert for worthwhile ideas that will raise the standard of efficiency in the schools and increase their influence for good. Under the superintendency of both C. E. Westover and Bert L. Hall the P. T. A. idea has been fostered and a number of schools are working with five units: Byron-Sunnyside-Logan; Four-Square; Rousseau; Springdale; De Grey. These are joined as a County Council. In Pierre there are four units, working together as a city council; they are Lincoln; Washington; Senior-Junior Hi; McKinley.

The writer knows more about Lincoln P. T. A. and will include a few facts concerning its history, tho the early records cannot be found. However since a membership card signed by Mrs. E. H. Wood as local president and Mrs. S. H. Scallon as State President is in her possession, it is known that the unit was in existence prior, or during Mrs. Scallon's presidency which was in 1915, and Mrs. Chas. McCaffrey was local president before Mrs. Wood. Lincoln P. T. A. has functioned continuously except during the World War, when the members engaged in pulling oakum, knitting and Red Cross work.

The presidents of Lincoln P. T. A. have been Mrs. Chas. McCaffrey, Mrs. E. H. Wood, Mrs. A. L. Heggland, Mrs. B. W. Baer, Mrs. F. G. Allen, Mr. David Radscliffe, Mrs. Glenn Martens, Mrs. Archie Potter, Mr. Art Lindstrom, Mrs. D. W. Loucks, Mrs. Dana McNeil, Mrs. D. W. Loucks, Mrs. Arthur Turner, Mrs. Glenn Doren, Mrs. A. R. Potter, Mr. Behrens. Mrs. Karl Graf has been elected president for the coming year, 1937-38. Mrs. Harry Notmeyer, Mrs. Robert Bagby, Mrs. Archie Potter and Supt. R. E. Rawlins have been active members in P. T. A. longer than anyone else in Pierre.

The brick used in building Lincoln, Washington and the old Central schools were made by Mr. Ward, assisted by Wm. Schumacher, in the brick yard just west of the bridge, and were hauled to the building sites by Mortimer Root.

Later Carrie Ward (the daughter) and Wm Schumacker were wed and made their home in Fielder. Edna, their daughter graduated from our high school, class of '26 and their grandson, Junior, is a member of the sophomore class at the present time.

—Mrs. Archie Potter.

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Springdale P. T. A. was organized October 20, 1933.

Names of all presidents in order since then: Mrs. Oscar Payne, Mrs. Gertrude Clark, Mrs. Albert Burki, Mrs. James Burley, Mrs. Oscar Payne.

This unit has also been faithful attenders at district and county conferences.

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The presidents of Washington P. T. A., of whom we have record are: H. L. Eveland, Glen Preston, J. Fred Olander, Bert L. Hall, Mrs. J. W. Raish, C. E. Westover, Mrs. Will Smith, Emil Jassman, Mrs. E. J. Kelson, R. W. Kraushaar, Mrs. Howard Trask, Bert L. Hall. Mrs. A. R. Potter says that the unit was likely formed about 1920 when a Miss Carberry came out from the national office and was instrumental in starting this P. T. A. She was also of service in re-organizing the Lincoln unit which had neglected the P. T. A. objectives and program due to the press-of emergency effort in World War requirements.

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4-Square P. T. A. was organized in the fall of 1932. The Presidents who have served are, Harry Morse, 1932 to 1934; C. E. Westover, 1934-35; Katherine Bruce, 1935-36; Mrs. Will Vanderwaal, 1936-38.

Byron-Sunnyside P. T. A. was organized in the fall of 1929. Officers since that time:

President	Vice President	Sec-Treasurer
1929-31—Mrs. Sam Fry	George Schmidt	Mrs. C. S. Pietrus
1931-32—Mrs. Gilbert Pearson	Will Hickey	Mrs. H. B. Lambert
1932-33—Chas. S. Pietrus	Will Hickey	Gilbert Pearson
1933-34—Chas. S. Pietrus	Mrs. Will Hickey	Margaret Ellis
1934-35—Mrs. Chas. S. Pietrus	Mrs. Arthur Miller	Mrs. Henry Ellis
1935-36—Mrs. Will Hickey	Mrs. C. S. Pietrus	Mrs. Raymond Siegel
1936-37—Mrs. A. Glassmaker	Mrs. C. S. Pietrus	Mrs. Will Hickey

In 1936 Logan district joined in with this unit and the name was changed to Byron-Logan P. T. A. —Mrs. C. S. Pietrus.

The Pierre City Council was organized in March 1937 with the following officers elected. Mrs. W. F. Cochrane, president; Mrs. Chas. Carr, vice president; Mrs. Ed Jacobs, secretary-treasurer.

The Hughes County Council was formed in February 1933 at the Lincoln school building in Pierre. Each Founders' day since there has been an observance sponsored by the Council to which all units of the county were invited. The officers of the Council since its instigation are as follows:

1933-1934— President	V. President	Secretary	Treasurer
Mrs. Archie Potter	Harry Morse	Margurite Mannaugh	Sarah Burki
1935-1936—			
Bert L. Hall	Harry Morse	Mrs. Charles Pietrus	Sarah Burki
1937			
C. E. Westover	Mrs. O. E. Payne	Mrs. Byron Swartz	Mrs. Anton maker

A P. T. A. was started at Central in 1933 with Mrs. Guy Erickson as president. In 1934 Senior Hi organized with Mrs. Archie Potter as president. In 1935 Junior-Senior was launched and has progressed with the following presidents. Mrs. Bert Neiber, Mrs. Oscar Johnson and Mrs. W. F. Cochrane.

Rousseau was founded about 1928 with Mrs. Perry McGaffee as president; presidents who followed were, Mrs. Frank C. Hall, Mrs. Perry McGaffee, Mrs. Byron F. Swartz, Mrs. Sam McGaffee, Mrs. Byron Swartz, Mrs. Glen Heiserman.

McKinley unit was organized in January 1936. The presidents have been Mrs. A. F. Core, Mrs. Art Miller and Mrs. Earl Boysen. The circle of P. T. A.'s were pleased to add this new association.

DeGrey P. T. A. came into existence in the fall of 1936, with the following officers in charge: Mrs. Will Harvey, president; Mrs. Kenneth Ackman;; Mrs. Amos Bartlett, secretary; Lew Richards, treasurer. Same officers re-elected in 1937.



Grace E. Matteson, Co. Supt. 1921-25

Dear Mr. Hall:

I am glad to contribute briefly on the growth of Contest and Exhibit activity during my 4 years in office.

Am sure my predecessor, Miss Daisy Solberg, had selected 2 children to represent Hughes county in the state fair spelling contest, 1921. This was probably the first attempt for representation in that state-wide grade pupil test of skill.

Some unfavorable criticism came from conscientious patrons and school officers. Their idea was that this was expenditure for a "fad" outside the 3 R's which had been predominant factors in their own school days.

How could I best help teachers to really help parents and school officials to realize that the "3 R's" were still taught, not as an end in themselves, however, but as a means of accomplishing something practical in every day life.

County contest organization with regular school work in the foreground seemed to offer the best solution. Accordingly efforts were made along that line. The cause advanced slowly but surely with a gratifying number of prizes won at the State Fair each year.

The first year only a very few schools furnished exhibits. However the idea spread and grew until the climax was reached in 1925, when the contest was held at Canning. There every school did its part and a large crowd was in attendance. Thanks to the efforts of Bert L. Hall, Superintendent of the Schools then and Co. Supt. of Schools-elect, athletics were introduced for the first time.

The great array of practical, as well as artistic displays of school work brought forth many exclamations of surprise, admiration and gratification.

That the schools were actually doing worth while things, seemed to be realized by all who attended.



Am glad to note that my successors, you and Carlos Westover, have carried on and improved the work.

—Grace E. Matteson, Ex. Co. Supt.

## Children Tell of M. C. Rousseau

We remember that father had a store in our big house on the hill west of Rousseau in 1883 and later he built a building close to the Northwestern tracks. In 1885 the contents of the store were moved to the latter building which was struck by lightning in 1887 and burned down. He had a store in Fort Pierre in the early days and later sold it to George Mathieson; this was doubtless in 1870, but Charley Fales could tell more definitely. Mace Martin and Steve Travis also knew our father and knew his dealings quite well.

I would like a copy of the speech that father made which was in the box in the cornerstone of the old Hughes county court house. I am sure that John Hipple of the Capital Journal has it. The Journal and Guide here have asked me for it several times. We believe that Charles De Land wrote our father's memoirs. Father was 19 years old when he came here about 1859.

Marcel Cyril Rousseau was born May 15, 1836 and came here from Montreal, Canada, about the date indicated above. He was married January 12, 1869 to Cleophee Mercier. He often told us how he lived on rose buds and buffalo berries nine days while hiding in the woods when the Indians were on the warpath. That was before he was married.

The children are as follows: Cleophas, Rapid City; Amedee, died 1935; Oscar, LaPlant; Marcelline Benton, died 1907; Cyril, probably in Ohio; Eugene, died 1936; Joseph, died 1896; Regina Powell, Fort Pierre; Albert, died 1933.

While driving home from Fort Pierre with a team on Sept. 6, 1902 father died, probably from a heart attack. He then ran a store and post office on the Cheyenne River, 6 miles up from the mouth. Mother died in 1888 and was buried on the hill above our home at Rousseau in Hughes county; some others were buried there too. She and father are now resting in the Fort Pierre burial ground.

—Regina Powell and Cleophas Rousseau.

Note: The father's speech mentioned above, if in the old court house cornerstone, was put back in the box sealed in the new cornerstone. Sophie De Land, a sister of Charles, did not find a manuscript on M. C. Rousseau when going over the papers of her deceased brother.

—Supt. Hall.

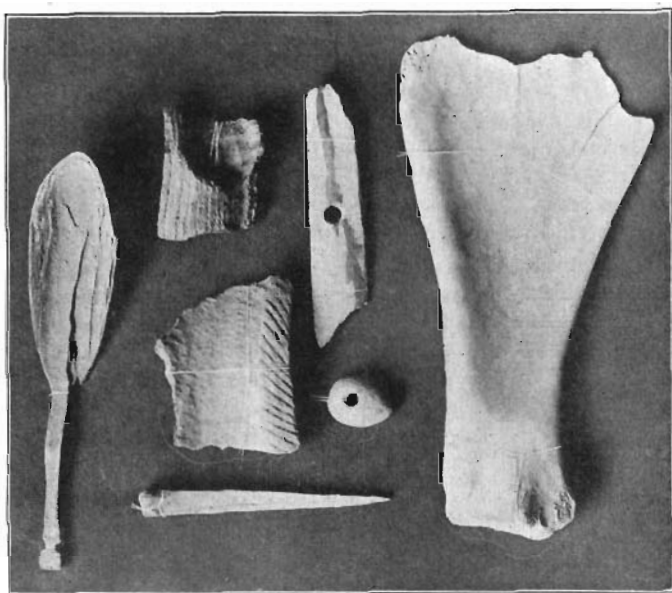
## Sam & Sadie

Sam McGaffee came to Hughes county in the winter of 1897 and homesteaded south of where Charles Hazelrigg now lives, down the river from De Grey. Charley's father, D. O. and family were not yet here.

Mr. McGaffee farmed a little and raised stock. In May, 1907 he married Sadie Kelley. They had only one child, Samuel J. He acquired some prominence as a radio singer, having a rich baritone voice.

For some years they lived in the upper end of Raber township but moved to the Pete Laughlin place below De Grey about 1912. The McGaffee's gained an intimate acquaintance with the Indian families who lived on the reservation below. It was quite common for the Redmen to stop at their farm to buy and barter for wood, chickens, dairy products, meat, etc.

Sam was a lover and competent judge of good horses and usually had a number of better animals on hand. The McGaffees now reside between Pierre and Rouseau and Sadie is still one of the best cooks along the river.



### Indian Relics Found Near De Grey

Some very fine relics have been picked up on the site of an old Ree Indian village near De Grey. The Grandle family has a fine collection of arrowheads, including one large white flint arrow notched down both sides. Also a long slender point of a peculiar glossy substance. They also have a number of clam shell ornaments.

There are small pipestone pipes, carved pipestone ornaments, many spear points, knives and thumbstones, a perfect bone awl, a polished bone bead, and some human bones.

The George Bowman family found two large hollowed-out rocks for grinding. Another has prints of the whorls of the fingers.

Some pottery is colored red on the outside, some red on the inside. A few pieces are cord marked. The others are decorated quite artistically with straight lines.

I dug about ten minutes in a mound and turned up a perfect bone awl. I turned over tons of dirt after that without finding anything of value. The light porous lava had been picked up by the Indians along the river, down which it had floated from the mountains. It was used for sharpening, boring, scraping and cutting tools.

I have a large awl made from a rib and a small bowl carved from stone.

—By Mrs. Will S. Harvey.

## Kossuth M. Byrum

Kossuth M. Byrum was born September 20, 1852 in Joe Davis county Illinois, and passed away at St. Mary's hospital in Pierre, Saturday morning, September 20, 1934, after a lingering illness, at the age of 82 years and 9 days.

He came to South Dakota where he was a rancher for eleven years in Sully county and west of the river.

On December 15, 1897, he was united in marriage to Eva Ann Rubel of Le Mars, Iowa. To this union six children were born. He lived in Iowa nine years after the marriage. After this he returned to South Dakota and resided in Hughes county until his death.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Eva Ann Bryum; three sons and three daughters, Paul, Ray, Lee Roy, and Mary Ellen of De Grey, Mrs. John Kinyon, of Harrold, and Mrs. Merle Sinclair of Harrison, Idaho; three sisters, Mrs. Hattie Wiley and Mrs. Huldie McCowin, of Rockford, Illinois, and Mrs. Cora Tucker of Stockton, Illinois; four brothers, Charles of Onida, Elezer of White Lake and Joe and Coe of Stockton, Illinois.

## The Rodas

In 1880 Fred Roda came from Rochester, New York, with his folks who located at Groton, S. D. At the age of 21 he started out with Will Weihrouch, Marion Masters and Nick Groce with a team of oxen to look for a homestead. After traveling as far west as White river, they turned back and located temporarily near Pierre. Fred and Will homesteaded near DeGrey. Mr. Roda resided on his homestead until his death in October, 1936. He was buried at Riverside, Pierre.

In 1889 he married Marie Hausman and to them 8 children were born of which 7 are still living: Orva R. Olson, Ben Franklin clerk; Velma La Roche, Corona, California; Crystal, Cleveland, Ohio; Mildred, teacher near Pierre; Erma Bronemann, teacher near Harrold; Vern, Brookings; Ivan, dead; Irene, student Northern Normal.

The Roda family have been noted for their frugal ways and their interest in education. Mr. Roda surrounded his home with a cedar shel-

ter-belt; also elms which were quite vigorous until drought and hoppers became so detrimental to vegetation. Mrs. Roda still lives on the homestead.

## Lew Richards' Story

Lew Richards arrived in this county from Wisconsin in the spring of 1884. He was 19 years old when he arrived at Blunt. He came with his father, Robert F. Richards. The other children in Robert's family were Merwin, Winifred, Birdie, Roy and Hobart. The father left here in 1904; both he and his wife are still living at Aberdeen. Lew's mother was 82 on March 3, 1937.

Robert Richards while at Blunt was a harness maker. Lew spent most of his time running cattle west of Blunt until about 1910. Later he farmed his mother's  $\frac{1}{2}$  section in Pleasant Valley Twp. for a few years. In September, 1917, he married Ruby Helen Cooper. Lew had been staying at the W. S. Sparks' home but after marrying he and his wife moved to the De Grey neighborhood. Mrs. Richards died July 16, 1933, and was buried at the Gidding's Cemetery. The mother left 5 children.

Lew says the drought was tough in 1900; they had to go to Hyde County to make hay. But he thinks the past few years we have passed through have been the toughest in his experience. In 1900-01 anthrax caused a big livestock loss especially along the Chapelle Creek. Little was known about the disease then; vaccine came from France. Large numbers of cattle died quickly and many of them were not burned. Lew helped dump 90 head in the Olney cistern and the Wellman well, 6 or 7 miles southeast of Blunt; he was working for Ed Carey. In the Richards' herd were 125 head and half of these were lost with anthrax.

During the days when people were pulling out, the streets of Blunt were crowded with prairie schooners, horses, oxen, mules and cows till traffic was badly blocked at times. Some went east driving the familiar Democrat buggy.

## "Mort" Howard Passes On

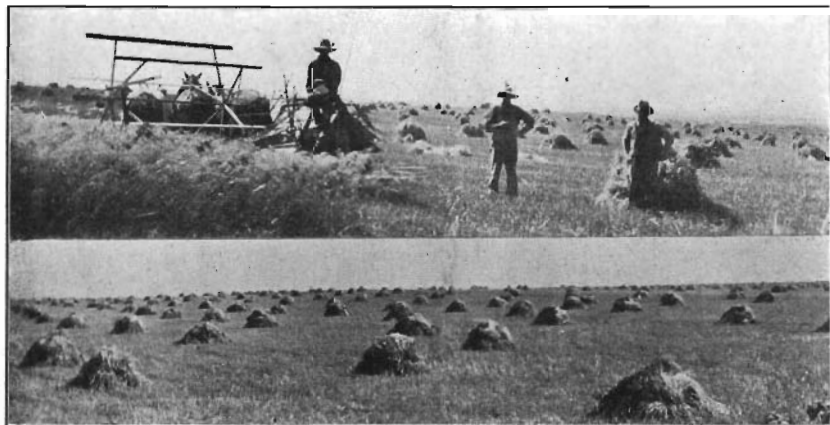
Mort Howard came to Sully County in 1881 and filed on a homestead. He shipped his goods to Blunt in 1882 and practically all there was at the station was a platform. The other structure was the land office building. His father and a brother, Link, also made filings in Sully County. They took tree claims and put out many trees but the ravages of bad years have destroyed most of them. Arnold, a Pierre barber, still has a living grove in that county, not far from trail 83.

Mort farmed on a large scale and used one of the first tractors ever brought into the county. He did blacksmithing and threshing for his neighborhood, using horse power and many times lengthened out the long autumn days at this strenuous work. He did not move to Hughes County until 1910 and was rewarded with good crops here as he was in

Sully County; yet endured the many hardships which all pioneers experienced.

Later he did truck gardening extensively near Rousseau. While there he saw three floods on the Missouri; the last one in 1927 brought water up to the chair bottoms in his house.

It should have been related before that in 1880 he married Evelyn McClure, a Sully County girl. Their children were: Harrison, Noma Baade, Cecila, Delby Ferguson, Iona B. Putnam, Corbot and Clark. The mother died in 1933 and a year later the father died and both are buried in the Onida Cemetery.



As mentioned above Mort was an early power farmer owning a Twin City tractor; a forge and blacksmith outfit was stationed in the field to straighten out plow beams and shares which needed frequent attention on account of the rocks. At times he also had considerable stock and suffered substantial loss in some of the bad winters. His family knew the limitations of sod houses and straw sheds.

## The Baade Family

Fred Baade moved from Michigan to Aberdeen in 1880 and later filed on a homestead in Day county. He helped build the Milwaukee road east from Aberdeen. He also farmed with oxen during the farming season. He worked at well drilling and helped in the harvest fields. Breaking the virgin sod with oxen was strenuous work but in those years they were rewarded with bountiful crops; wheat ran about 20 bushels per acre and was worth \$1.00 a bushel. When the farmer went to town he took wheat and traded it for groceries, furniture or whatever he needed; not much money changed hands. In the '90's many people left, some walking out, some driving in carts, etc. Those who stayed came out and made money.

In 1904 he came to Hughes county reaching Harrold on the railroad with a few oxen and cows. He located near Giddings, 20 miles southwest of Harrold. An anthrax epidemic broke out and he lost all but one big white ox which had strayed back as far as Harrold. This he sold to a buyer for \$30. Experiencing this hard luck he walked to Pierre looking for work and was happy to get a job on the government gang which was rip rapping Marion's Island to protect Fort Pierre. Later he helped to put in and take out the pontoon bridge across the river. In 1897 he worked for the North Western railway and continued for 9 years as section foreman. In 1906 he moved down to De Grey township where he has since resided. In 1888 he had married Alvina Metz at Webster. She died in 1920 and was buried at Pierre. Fred died in 1933 at St. Mary's hospital at the age of 72 and was buried in Pierre. The children are Frank and Martin.

He often mentioned the panic of 1895-96; most people had no money except for the bare necessities. A government project of rip rapping the Missouri bank for quite a distance below Pierre helped many a homesteader; in fact every profession almost from a goldsmith to a hobo was employed. Most all of the work was done with wheel barrows except the hauling down of the boulders from the hills to the north. Though times were hard then they are worse now with more people being unemployed and grasshoppers, beetles and hot winds devastating gardens and crops.

Fred was a great booster in a quiet way and had implicit faith in this country. He was able to judge it because he traveled considerably. He was noted for his thrift and always believed that a farmer or stock man should keep two years of feed and seed on hand.

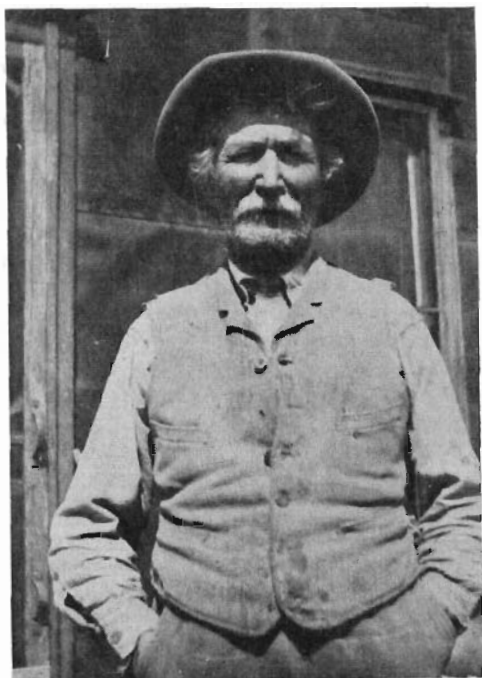
## Reminiscences of Henry Lewis Jones

H. L. Jones (mostly plain "Hank") came to this locality in 1866 by joining a mule team loaded with provisions for old Ft. Sully.

In 1871 Mr. Jones participated in the removal of the Spotted Tail Indians from Whetstone, their Agency, four miles above Wheeler, to the Big White Clay creek, near Crow Butte.

He worked for the J. W. Bosler Cattle Co. of Omaha, "Bill" Paxton of that place being the general superintendent. They had the contract for furnishing beef to the Indian agencies along the Missouri. He worked for this company four years. In 1875, while in their employ, he married Miss Theresa DeGrey, a mixed blood Sioux.

In the spring of 1876 he quit the Bosler outfit and started three wood yards, the same being at Ft. George Island; at the mouth of Chapelle creek, and near the present King & Taylor buildings south of De Grey. He also opened two road ranches, one at the head of Chain de Roche south of the John Sayer buildings and the other at the Charley DeGrey place, south of the present DeGrey post office. A road ranch was a place where meals were served and teams fed for the traveling public. Travelers usually carried their beds.



Mr. Jones died April 17, 1927

A little colony started to lay out a townsite about where Logan Duff now lives, which is northwest of the Massey store about 40 rods. They named it Winnebago City. Will Ingham put out a newspaper shingle and the project looked like a sure go. (Mr. Ingham died last year at Miles City.) But hopes of the newcomers were doomed to disappointment. (Note: Pres. Cleveland closed the reservation to settlement.)

On July 1, 1877, he took the contract for carrying the mail between Ft. Thompson and Ft. Sully. He retained this job until December, 1878, when he took over the Ft. Pierre-Rapid City Route.

Mrs. Jones died in 1881 and Mr. Jones and 3 children then made their home in Pierre. Four children had been born to this marriage, namely, Charles, William, Mabel and a baby. The baby died in infancy and Mabel passed away in Pierre in 1910. The sons, now men with families, live on the Cheyenne reservation.

On March 1, 1883, Mr. Jones entered the government service as Boss Herder for the Big Bend portion of the local reservation, which position he held until July 1, 1890.

President Arthur opened the reservation to settlement on Feb. 28, 1885. Many home-seekers rushed in and staked out claims. Ten days after the Arthur proclamation President Cleveland rescinded that action

and ordered the would be homesteaders to withdraw. Soldiers were sent to remove the most obstinate ones.

On June 30, 1887, he married Anna Jane Raber. To this parentage were born six children. Those living are Mrs. Charles Fratzke, Mrs. Charles Coler, Mrs. Jesse Albright and Samuel. Mrs. Jones has a daughter, Annie, by previous marriage, who is now Mrs. Joe Knight.

On February 14, 1896, the Jones home at the mouth of Chapelle creek was burned. A large part of "Hank's" diaries burned.

From the remaining records we catch a glimpse of current happenings in this prairie river country in early days. The diaries were kept while Mr. Jones ran a road ranch. Mention is made of prospectors, traders, outlaws, homeseekers, and Indians, stopping for meals or lodging at the Jones quarters. The stage usually carried from one to half a dozen passengers.

"Hank" says he liked the old days better. More people were traveling; life was freer, neighbors weren't so close.

The local Indians have a friendly and earnest respect for Mr. Jones, who has been so long in their midst, treating them fairly and never trying to take advantage of their meager business ability.

—South Dakota Historical Collection Vol. XI, Page 391—Written 1921

## For Mrs. Tutin's 80th Birthday

We're glad to be with you on this happy event

And pay honor to the 80 years of life you have spent.

In this country you've been a real pioneer;

And to you those days will always be dear.

We know you've had sorrow, trials and care!

But that shows you're human, for we all have our share.

But mixed in with this, you've had joy and gladness

And we find that they always outweigh our sadness.

You've given service and aid to many a friend;

In this, may you continue clear thru to the end,

For the sun still shines and the wind blows cold

But why tell you this, that story is old.

For you've endured Dakota, its snow and its heat,

And the real pioneer spirit is sure hard to beat.

And today with friends here gathered around

Our wish is that your life with joy will abound.

We might wish you travel, fame, riches and wealth.

But our wish for you is contentment, kind friends and good health.

May your life be enriched with friends loyal and true

And again our club says Happy Birthday to you.

—Composed by Mrs. Ray Pool.



## What Happened to Mr. G. C. Tutin

Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Tutin are the oldest pioneers living in this neighborhood. George arrived in Harrold, April 17, 1883. At this time there was nothing, but a box car in the town now known as Harrold. The Tutin family settled 3 miles west and 4 miles south of Harrold on the Krull place, and moved on Chapelle creek in 1886. This land was opened to settlement, Feb., 1885. People flocked in by the hundreds. When Pres. Cleveland closed the land to settlement, soldiers were sent out to get them off.

Then came the Indian War threats in 1885. The Sioux tribe succeeded in burning 150 shanties between Rousseau and this neighborhood. There were rumors that Sitting Bull was coming this way. Ammunition was sent to Col. Waite at Blunt to protect the settlers. The old mill at Blunt was to serve as the fort. This was only a scare; Sitting Bull didn't come.

July 4, 1884 marks the date of the first pioneer picnic at R. A. Jackson home. Two days before, a hail storm pounded the corn into the ground. The hail stones were as large as teacups and didn't melt until the next day. Prairie dogs and rattlesnakes were washed out and drowned.

The first Sunday school in Pleasant Valley township was started in 1883 at the home of John Nead. Mrs. R. A. Jackson was the leader. An early minister preached in a little red school house on the Tutin homestead. Rev. W. F. Doty, a Sunday school missionary, came later and preached.

The first school house was built in 1894 east of Giddings. Annie Marso was the teacher. This township was named after Mr. Raber, another old pioneer. Mr. Raber hauled wood to Blunt with oxen and brought back groceries making the trip of 50 miles in 2 days.

There was over two feet of snow on the prairie on May 5, 1883. In 1886 the drought came; only 3 people remained in Pleasant Valley at the end of the summer; Jim Ryan, J. T. Baines and Will Baines. The Chapelle Creek country reopened for settlement about 1890.

A regular steamboat trade went up the Missouri River to Bismarck until the railroad was established in 1880.

There was very little grass on the prairie for several years due to the prairie fires. There were no flies or weeds. Nothing grew in the fields except what was planted. They received a fair price for all they sold. The fire breaks were plowed every six miles to prevent fires. Later they were placed every three miles.

—Contributed.

## Charlie West, Our Colored Neighbor

Charles F. West was born in Fayette county, Ohio, but came from Pueblo, Colo., and filed on a homestead near De Grey in 1901. He was without funds but accompanied by his small son Charles, who now oper-

ates a garage at Canning, he managed to persevere and by thrift became an extensive stock raiser, farmer and gardener. His specialty has been alfalfa, melons and potatoes. He owns 322 acres of land, part of it being on the river bottom southeast of De Grey. He never saw such a long period when crops couldn't be raised. Other settlers of that day were Corning, Fowler and Dell Daniels.

Marion Massey's father homesteaded near Black Lake and Charley tells how he found him with a bob sled which had tipped over as he was returning from Canning with roads badly drifted. They re-loaded the coal and finally succeeded in getting it home. Joe Greenwood was another neighbor. One handicap of that day was the scarcity of water; settlers in many cases did not have good wells. Many cattle roamed the prairies.

Mr. West has had the misfortune to have two houses burn down; also his automobile was destroyed by fire.

## Michael Nelson Thomson

Mike was born in Denmark in 1857. In 1883 he took up a pre-emption 12 miles north and west of Pierre in Peoria township. He never married. He sold milk in Pierre from 1885 to 1898. He first lived beyond the stockyards near the brickyard and later moved down on the present Tyler ranch. He experienced some hard times then as people often couldn't pay their milk bills. So he returned to his land in the country and ranched for a few years but later returned to Pierre. In 1901 he placed a homestead filing on the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  32-110-76 which lies west of De Grey. He took out his second naturalization papers in Pierre before H. R. Tarbell, clerk of courts.

## An Early De Grey Settler

Ed Hausman came from Lebanon, N. Y. in 1882 with his wife and homesteaded at De Grey. There were 11 children in the family; 8 are still living. They are John, Marie Roda, Carl, Lottie Welch, Eva Eakright, Clyde, Milton and Jake.

Ed barbered in Pierre for many years. In 1914 he lost his arm in a well rig in the Pocket, and soon afterward he died. Mother died in the spring of 1936 and both are buried at Riverside.

—Carl Hausman.

## The Greenwoods

Jessie Jones arrived from Wisconsin and filed on the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  23-110-76 in the fall of 1905. She established permanent residence here in the spring of 1906 and taught school west of De Grey the following winter. The building had only two windows on the side. She married Joe Greenwood who had come from Oshkosh, Wis. Joe had filed on

SE¼ 13-110-76. Their home has been on this tract of land for many years, where there is plenty of good water.

A sad accident darkened this home in 1920 when Horace was killed while riding a horse. There was no cemetery in the neighborhood so the Chapelle Cemetery Assn. was formed and a burial ground platted a mile south of Giddings and in its first grave Horace's body was placed. By 1937 there are about 24 graves in the cemetery.

Other Greenwood children are: Lillian, now Mrs. Paul E. Brown, near Arlington; Mary, going to school in Aberdeen; Richard, a Junior in Blunt High School.

Jessie Greenwood has been active in Home Extension work since 1922. Her children have achieved exceptional 4-H Club recognition. Mrs. Greenwood has always assumed a responsible position in Sunday School activity, both at Giddings and Sunnyview. She and her husband have served on the school board a number of terms.

## The Coopers Come and Stay

In the fall of 1907 Warren Cooper and family arrived in Hughes county. The children were, Fred, Lawrence, Walter, Ruby (later married Lew Richards; now is deceased).

Lawrence and Walter homesteaded on Dorian Island in the western portion of the Big Bend. This was the family home for 7 years. After proving up the holdings were sold to Henry Peters of Spearfish who accumulated over 800 acres in that locality.

There are some graves on the island and over one of them stands a headstone. It says, according to Walt's memory: "Owen Holland, soldier, died in service." The date he does not remember. There is an inscription of the American flag on the stone, and the belief is that a passing boat gave burial to one of their departed.

The Coopers ranched in Sully county for 4 years and then moved to the Billy Congdon ranch on Chapelle creek; after remaining there for 2 years the F. M. Massey store was purchased by Cooper Bros., who also operated a cattle ranch up the creek from the De Grey store. Mrs. Warren Cooper, the mother, died about 1910 and the father 10 years later. They are buried at Mattoon, Ill. A useful addition was made to the De Grey center in 1931 when the Woodman hall was erected by the local energetic lodge.

## The Allemans Among Pioneers

Peter Alleman and wife arrived in local territory in 1882 from near Council Bluffs, Iowa. They came overland with wagons which contained household effects, chickens, etc. Cattle were trailed the long distance. They settled in Peoria bottom. The children of this family were, Pete, rancher in the central part of the township; Sam, Peoria bottom rancher; Hattie Graber and George, in Iowa; Mary Bunch, life lost in auto accident; Albert and Will, Haakon Co.; Lawrence, a stockman in western Mentor township. Will is quite a successful rancher near the Carlin bridge across the Cheyenne river. This bridge is named for Douglas Carlin who ranched in early days about 7 miles west of the present bridge. Before the bridge was built the main ford crossing was west of the present site. This bridge was dedicated in 1922 and the cost was \$99,600. Since then a span has been added, making the total cost \$120,000. Will has erected an elegant home just southwest of the bridge at an approximate cost of \$10,000.

Peter Alleman, Sr. died about 20 years ago and his wife about 10 years later. The remains lie in Oahe cemetery about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile north of the Riggs ranch buildings. A number of Indians resided in that vicinity in the early days. In Pierre a confectionery store stood where the J. C. Penny store is now located. Peter Jr. married Jennie Clark at Pierre on Dec. 12, 1896. Their children are, Hugo, Clinton, Herman, Clarence and Ivan. Sam has only one child, Gladys. Lawrence married Stella Bane and their children are, Marjorie, Austin, Harold, Annie and Maxine.

Peter, Sr. and the older boys used to acquire extra money by hauling wood and hay to town and by freighting for Ft. Sully and Ft. Bennett, the latter over the ice in winter.

In 1894 or '95 Lieutenant Callahan's wife was returning from Pierre in an ambulance or coach drawn by 4 mules. He was an officer stationed at Ft. Bennett and as it was winter and the ice deemed safe, a crossing was attempted. The whole thing went through the ice and Pete (the son) helped pull them out. The 4 mules were drowned as was also Mrs. Callahan. The driver was never found. Quite a supply of groceries was badly damaged by the accident.

## Joseph Pitlick Perseveres

Mr. Pitlick was born in Pilsen, Bohemia, September 16th, 1861. When a lad of five he came to America with his parents. The trip was made on a sailing vessel, requiring 13 weeks to make the journey across the ocean. They arrived in America in August, 1866. His parents immigrated to Iowa City, Iowa, and it was there in 1882 that Mr. and Mrs. Pitlick were married.

Many hardships were endured during their earlier days here. Mr. Pitlick recalls the time he hauled hogs to market for \$1.25 per hundred, oats for 6c a bushel and corn for 10c. He hauled these hogs twenty-five miles in a lumber wagon from Iowa City to Cedar Rapids.

Mr. Pitlick and his family came to Sully County in 1903. He is the father of 10 children, 8 of whom are living. He thought that the land of South Dakota offered better opportunities for a man with a large family. He lived in Sully County until 1910. In 1910 they moved to Pierre. They lived there 2 years, coming to Peoria Bottom in 1912, where they have since resided.

Mr. Pitlick bought a farm known as the Yellowhawk land. On this land stood an old log house, about 40x16 feet. This house was made from hand hewn cottonwood logs and was built by Harney's soldiers eighty years ago. It is supposed to be the oldest log structure in the county. The family lived in this house till 1918, when they moved into a new house built a few rods away from it. Mr. Pitlick, with the help of his son Carl, built a fine set of buildings on this land. A new home was necessary, for the old log house would no longer keep out snakes. This place makes the fifth home that he has established and built up.

In 1907 he shipped his first car load of hogs to Chicago, probably the first car load shipped from Pierre. When he arrived in Chicago with the hogs, he was asked what he fed them, for South Dakota wasn't supposed to be able to produce any feed that would fatten hogs. Since that time he has averaged 2 carloads of hogs every year until two years ago, when he and his son were compelled to quit raising them on account of drought. He has always been an active cattle and hog feeder.

Mr. Pitlick has gone through several drouth periods such as 1911 and 1912. In 1926 hog cholera struck for the first time and caused a loss of \$8000. A few years ago lightning struck and killed 21 head of cattle. In 1932 rye and corn were seven cents a bushel. Now for the past few years he has been passing through this terrible siege of drouth and hoppers. But he has the nature of a pioneer, for he never complains. One neighbor said of him, "I never saw anyone take as much abuse and punishment with this drouth and hopper plague as Mr. Pitlick has taken and keep such a stiff upper lip."

## Cyrus Gain Robinson

Cyrus Gain Robinson, first son of Dr. Gain Robinson and Mary Louise Taylor Robinson, was born April 1, 1850, at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and passed peacefully away in his home at Oahe, S.D., Sept. 1, 1933, at the age of eighty-three years and five months. There is only one left of this family of ten; his parents, five brothers and one sister having preceded him in death. One sister, Mrs. Helen R. Baker, of Macomb, Illinois is still living.

March 23, 1885, he was married to Bessie Brisco Burmood in Mt. Sterling, Illinois. Mrs. Robinson died January 1, 1921, and two infant sons died many years ago. Mr. Robinson leaves to mourn his death twin sons, Harvey Philip and Gain Henry Robinson and one daughter, Mary Robinson Pitlick, and their families, all of Oahe, S. D.

While a young man he taught school several terms in Illinois, proved up on a claim in Kansas, was a registered pharmacist, and was

admitted to the bar. But most of his time was spent on a farm in Illinois and the ranch in South Dakota.

Mr. Robinson was among the early settlers of this vicinity, having come with his wife from Illinois in the early eighties. For years Mr. Robinson was connected in the banking business with his brother in the city of Pierre; they owning what was known as the Bank of Pierre, which was one of the first, if not the first, bank in Pierre. While in Pierre he was a member of the Masonic lodge; becoming a Knights Templar. He fell away from the lodge about forty years ago, when the family moved to Oahe, where they have made their home since. After moving to the country Mr. Robinson and his sons did a great deal of freighting of Indian supplies, going overland with teams and wagons to the Cheyenne Agency, where his brother had a store.

Mr. Robinson came of good old Presbyterian Scottish and English stock on one side and the Pilgrim and Pennsylvania Dutch or Quaker stock on the other side. His outstanding traits of character were his quiet, unassuming ways; always thinking of others first, trying to do something to make some one else happy, never complaining, and always keeping his sorrows to himself. To the very last his mind was alert and his body active. His sickness was only of a few days duration. Ever since the death of his wife, he has suffered loneliness, but suffered in silence. So we must think of him as having only left us for awhile to join his wife and two infant sons. We loved him, ah! perhaps too well, but God has taken him home to a well deserved rest; his last words being "Gain, Harvey, Mary, where is she?"

—Daily Capital Journal, Pierre, South Dakota—Sept. 20, 1933

## Hans Sorensen, a Noted Frontiersman

Hans Sorensen was born in Denmark and later married. He came to this country, and reached this county in 1889. He located north of Blunt in Sully Co. The wife died soon after they became settled, leaving 7 children to the father's care. Those children were: Chris, now manager Ft. Pierre elevator; James, Ft. Pierre; Margaret Moulton, Oahe; Grondina Giddings, Ft. Pierre; Christina, Annie and Martin died previous to 1937.

In 1892 Hans married Maggie Weischedel in Pierre. He was a master of many trades. He was skilled at masonry; construction work; music; shoe repairing; and had an inventive turn of mind. He helped build the pontoon bridge across the Missouri. The children from the second marriage are, Helen Redden, Stanley Co.; Alfred, deceased; Anina Lund, Canada; Walter, Pierre florist; Howard, in Pierre Auto-motive shop.

Mr. Sorensen moved with his family to Peoria bottom in 1897 as he had secured the old Hump Rib place from Mason P. Martin. Hump Rib was a Sioux chief and we felt quite proud occupying his domicile, to which we later added 2 log rooms.

Hans had managed a brick yard in Denmark and was sure that he could make bricks from the soil near Oahe. In 1903 he began preparations: he built a round vat about 3 feet high and 12 feet across. Between its double walls was a 5 inch space which was filled with earth. Against this on the inside was constructed the "mixer," a box made of heavy planks about 4 ft. square and 5 ft. high. A contraption something like the ladle on the inside of an ice cream freezer did the mixing. Gumbo and sandy soil were the ingredients used. Water was carried to it from the well through a garden hose. A horse was hitched to a long sweep and the stirring began. Hans stood in a hole and as the mixture came out into a second vate he filled moulds. The green bricks were placed in the sun to dry by 2 carriers. When sufficiently cured they were smoothed up and taken in wheel barrows and placed in long ricks, about 2½ feet wide and 3 ft. high, always with air space between. Open sheds protected the bricks from rain but allowed the entrance of sunlight.

When the bricks were thoroughly dry they were placed in the kiln, 20 x 30 ft. by 12 ft. high. This was made from broken and damaged bricks and was plastered up with "mixture" on the outside so that the heat would not escape. Three archways had been constructed with openings reaching up to a top opening; in these fires were built and kept going for 3 days. At the last firing the fuel doors were mudded shut causing the fires to die away slowly. At the end of 10 days the kiln would be opened and the harvest of reddish brick, perfect except for the ones directly over the arches, greeted the enthusiastic workers.

A steamboat, the Scotty Philip, took the first kiln of bricks to Pierre. Mr. Sorensen used the second kiln product to build an 8 room home. Running water was supplied by the windmill; thus we had one of the first "modern" rural homes in this area. The first kiln of bricks paid for the lumber and hardware in the new home.

Father died in 1911.

—Helen Redden, a daughter.

## Among the Teton Dakotas

Thomas L. Riggs

In 1840, Stephen Riggs preached his first sermon in Dakota Territory, not far from Fort Pierre monument, where he hoped to establish a mission. The roving Dakota Indians, however, did not make it possible to establish a permanent settlement.

Thirty-two years after his father's visit to Dakota, Thomas L. Riggs, the second son, began a log cabin mission house called Hope Station. Of the experiences of these early days, Mr. Riggs wrote: "Beginning our mission among the Teton Sioux involved much hard work and real danger. In the woods with an axe, rafting on the muddy and turbulent Missouri, lifting and fitting the green cottonwood logs to place in the station building—all is fresh and vivid even to the soreness and pain in

the hands and back. I could get no help at that time—the summer of 1872. No white man would hire to work unprotected among Indians here, and hence with the help of an occasional Indian, a younger brother and I worked on Hope Station. We lived as the natives lived, on bacon, greasy bread and black coffee. An Indian woman, the helper's wife, cooked for us. After the burning heat of the day we slept on the ground with our rifles under our blankets beside us. Often we were awakened at dawn and saluted during the day by the near report of a rifle, the ping of the ball overhead showing that it was the gun of some Indian to scare us, and grim fun it was. Two men were killed at the agency; a few miles away a messenger was shot dead; and at Fort Sully on the opposite side of the river, that haven of safety as we regarded it, an officer was shot in the head and severely wounded within sight of the Fort.

"We worked on the house week days and on the Sabbath, services were held long before I could talk Dakota other than in a lame way. The attendance was fitful and uncertain—now a full house and then but one or two dirty children. Then, as they would not come to us, I went to them. Into their dirty houses or smoky tents I took the A B C book and in this way gathered them in."

Later two new missions were established, one on the west side of the Missouri, the other east of the river at Peoria Bottom. The latter site was known as Oahe where the historic Chapel still stands and where Mr. Riggs still makes his home. The mission was discontinued in 1913.

Mr. Riggs has been one of the devoted Christian missionaries of early western South Dakota. His work among the Indians is a lasting memorial to his heroic effort. His labors affected the lives of many men and women among the Indians of the west river country.

The work of our Christian missionaries is one of our inheritances to be continued and passed on to the next generation, a suggestion for "My Heritage and the Future—A Trust." —Young Citizen, 1933.

## Fielder Bottom Pioneers

Joseph Ihli came to Fielder bottom in the late fall of 1884 from Stevenson Co., Illinois and was joined by his wife later in the fall. His father Xavier and family also came to that location and lived on part of what is now the Fred Ebert place. The Joseph Ihli family after living 20 years at Fielder, moved to East Pierre where they have since resided. Xavier died in 1897 and his wife in 1906; both were buried in Calvary Cemetery north of Pierre. Their children were: Magdalena, who married Fred Ebert; Louise became Mrs. Bert Benton, Pierre; John who died in Pierre in 1922; Wendel died in Idaho; and Joseph mentioned above. This son engaged in farming, stock raising and teaching school until he was appointed deputy county auditor in 1905. He served rather continuously in the Court House until 1925 when he did field work with the state hail insurance department; he was later Pierre city assessor for 7 years.



He says that by the latter part of 1884 all the lands in this part of value had been filed on. Population then far exceeded that of today. In the first Peoria election he attended, 66 votes were cast; these were by men because women could not vote; now that township has less than 66 voters, both men and women. This would hold true for all parts of the county outside of Pierre.

One was impressed with the fact that educated men and women who had settled on land seemingly lived in contentment in small sod houses and shacks of every description. In those days it did not require the glare that people in modern days seem to seek.

In those days the Black Hills stage and the bull trains were still making their regular trips from Pierre to the Hills. Soldiers were a common sight on the streets of Pierre as at that time both Ft. Sully and Ft. Bennett were located up on the river; the former being 23 miles from Pierre and the latter 30 miles. These posts received their supplies by steamboat on the Missouri. While the 11th Infantry, U. S. A., was stationed here, Fiorello La Guardia, father of the present Mayor of New York, was chief musician of the 11th Regimental band at Ft. Sully. Fiorello, who was then a very small boy, is now quite a national figure.

In the literary society in the Fielder community were a lawyer, a former superintendent and others who had formerly held responsible positions. Mr. Ihli was secretary. Wilbur Rudy, who had married a squaw, was called upon at one of the programs and gave a splendid talk on the history of education. This surprised his listeners who little suspected his ability and training. He later had difficulty with the Indians who insisted on following an old trail across land which he had fenced and he later killed an Indian who insisted on trespassing. He was acquitted before Judge J. F. Hughes.

J. C. Aeger was county commissioner; others were Billy Wells of the Wells House, and J. F. Hughes, and John Gould of Canning. They started to improve the Court House grounds about 40 years ago and they were put in about their present condition by 1907. Quite a draw ran east of the old Court House and this of course was filled in.

Roads were nil—trails ran everywhere. Early settlers had the spirit to divide with others.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ebert have been married 41 years and most of their activity has consisted of ranching, farming and raising alfalfa in Fielder bottom and across the river in Stanley county. Their children are: James, Joe, Lena (Mrs. Harry Meyer), Hayward, Calif.; Gertrude (Mrs. Harry Amos), Pierre.

Louise Ihli married Bert Benton in the Gus Bergen hotel in Ft. Sully in 1892. Chaplain Barry performed the ceremony. Their children are Ethel (Mrs. Hi Davis); Belle Ashcroft, Long Beach, Calif. (her husband is a high school athletic director); Donald, auto welding, Pierre; Louise, (Mrs. Ed Michaelson, Pierre); Frankie, Riverside, Calif.; Clara, Rockford, Illinois.

—An interview with Joseph Ihli, Sr.

## Early Fielder History

By John Millett

My father, George J. Millett, Jr., and his father, George, arrived here in time to help move old Ft. Sully up the river 25 miles to the new location in 1870. My father was born in Crawford Co., Ill, in 1847. He served in the Civil war in Co. C 45th Wis. infantry. My father's family moved from Yankton here in a covered wagon in 1880 and located on what was then Okobojo island. This land has now been joined to the mainland and at present is owned by Pearl Telford.

My brothers and sisters were: Effie; Lucy A.; George F.; Emma A.; Clara B.; Alice R.; Fanny M.; and 3 boys who died in infancy. My father was the first sheriff of Sully Co., and my grandfather one of the first commissioners of that county. It was found by survey later that the land we occupied was really in Hughes and not Sully Co. My father married Carrie A. Brooks in Sioux City in 1872. He and my grandfather had done considerable river freighting up from Sioux City to Ft. Sully, Ft. Bennett, and Ft. Yates. Father and Jim Webb later had a wood and hay contract with Ft. Sully.

Clifton was the first seat of government in Sully Co. and I remember one stormy day father was called there. He went on horse back and wore mother's knitted hood. He also wore a coat my mother had made from tanned wild cat pelts.

Ft. Sully's pay roll came to Blunt and was taken from there overland. On one trip an officer from the Fort and a half breed stopped at Okobojo creek to cook dinner as they were carrying the payoff to the Fort. When the officer's back was turned the breed hit him with a hatchet and killed him. The robber was apprehended at Harrold the next day aboard a train going east. The funds were recovered but the Indian was later hanged in Nebraska.

My father resided on the home place for 40 years. He died Aug. 15, 1913 and mother passed away in 1932. A Frenchman by the name of Claymore and a darky by the name of Kackley died about 1881 and my father and others buried them up from the mouth of Spring creek. A young Indian boy was also buried some distance from them. Their graves can still be seen.

My father and grandfather bought the telegraph line between Ft. Sully and Ft. Yates in 1889 when the latter place was abandoned. We took down the line and rafted the material down stream to our place.

Some of my early teachers were, Sarah Dake, Harry Van Tress, Maggie King and Mrs. Sherwood. Geo. Moseley was once the blacksmith at Ft. Bennett. Steve Moseley ran a saloon near the present F. N. Putnam place. John McClure was another early settler who lived about where Matt Moseley lives now. Bill Fielder was one of the best known frontiersmen in that locality. His parents had been killed in the New Ulm massacre when he was quite young. He was raised by Indians and was of Scotch descent. He was wed to an Indian

woman and they established the Fielder post office. He was quite a character and usually carried plenty of money. He was also inclined to consume liquor and was often up to something unusual. As an example, my father had an old Oliver mower which could be used only with difficulty. He mashed it up one night and then gave father money to get a new one. He later moved up northwest of Forest City and finally was killed by Indian police who had gone out to bring him in on a charge. Allen, a son, is employed at Cheyenne Agency.

There was a butcher ranch up above the mouth of Okobojo creek. Beef was killed twice a week. It was used by whoever had the beef contract. Some who had it were Bob Tompkins, Chas. and Joe Bunch, Bill Floyd (father of Alden). Andy Forsythe came from Ireland and settled up the river from us. Three children he left in Ireland were brought over here 12 years later by John Hackett, a cousin. John still spends most of his time near the Forsythe location.

I married Icapine Bunch on Jan. 30, 1908. She was the daughter of Col. E. P. Bunch, a Civil war veteran. She was a schoolma'am and started the first library in the county. A pie social was held during the term of 1897-98 and the proceeds went to buy library books, which were used both by the school and community.

My parents are buried at Oahe cemetery.

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John Sutherland, D. W. March and C. H. Anderson can tell much about early happenings. All have been closely allied with the development of the city and county. Their memories are trained in accuracy and many are the incidents which one can listen to without tiring. We regret that we cannot provide space for contributions along with several others. Supt. R. E. Rawlins is preparing quite an extensive compilation on the history of the Pierre schools and we regret that it was not completed in time so that we might be able to use at least a summary from it.—B. L. H.

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## Who Is Older Than John McGrin?

John McGrin, of Dry Run, was born in County Claire, Ireland, in 1841, which makes him 96 in 1937. He came to this county from Hartington, Nebraska in 1910. His wife died in 1916. She was Margaret Kearney and married John at Dennison, Iowa in 1874. Their children are James, in Nebraska; Joseph in Washington, D. C.; Belle and Mary reside in the state; Ellen McDonald keeps house for her father and brother, J. P. Ellen's daughter, Margaret, is Mrs. Tom Mathews in Pierre. She has 4 children, so 4 generations are here represented.

The writer enjoyed his visit with this centenarian very much. Although age has impaired vision and hearing to some extent, the spirit of friendship, cordiality and outlook on life is still young—B. L. H.

## The Biwer Family

George Biwer and wife came to this locality on March 1, 1882, and homesteaded in Dry Run Township, 35-11-78. There are 7 children in the family, and some member of the family has lived on the place continuously since the date of filing. The children are, Kate Thorne, Capa; John, Pierre; Mike, Pierre; Pete, lives on the original homestead; Theresa Chaussee, Pierre; Katherine Bruce, Pierre. John, Theresa, and Nick are deceased.

George had a brother Nick who lived here for some time. George passed away in 1906 and was preceded in death 4 years by his wife. Peter and family lived for some years in Deuel Co., but returned here in 1933 and live on the home place in Dry Run. He also ranched a few years near Capa, going there in 1891. May Walsh became his bride in 1897.

## A South Dakota Prairie Fire

(Editor's note: We are indebted to Mr. C. E. Westover for this weeks 'copy' for our See-Back-A-Graph. The following is taken from a theme written by a relative of Mr. Westover in 1889, it being part of a high school assignment of the writer.)

Perhaps there are not many people left in Hughes county who remember the fearful prairie fire that roared and sizzled its way across that region on the second day of April, 1889. I have experienced many prairie fires, but that was the most serious within my recollection. The loss of property and live stock was wide spread and caused untold hardships among the people.

That spring of 1889 was an unusually early one, and there had been almost no rain. By the first of April the winter snow had long vanished and the grass and weeds were dry as tinder. In this year I was living in Blunt with my father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Carlos S. Westover, in a small house across the street from the old Presbyterian church. On the morning of the second of April the wind was blowing a gale terrific even for South Dakota. The air was so filled with fine dust that often, looking out our windows, we could not see the church across the street. Toward four o'clock in the afternoon a heavy darkness as of night settled down over us, and looking northward, we saw black clouds rolling over the bluffs. At first they were thought to be dust, but stepping outside we smelled the smoke and realized that a prairie fire, fierce, and moving like the wind, was almost upon us. Soon we saw the flames leaping high into the black smoke. Fortunately the main fire passed a little to the east of us, just beyond the first range of hills; otherwise, so furious was its pace, that nothing could have prevented it from going through the town and burning everything.

All the men and boys in town, on foot, horseback, or with teams rushed out to meet the oncoming fire. There, with backfires and all other means known to these experienced men of the plains, they fought

long and valiantly to protect their homes. The terrified women and children ran to and fro, scarcely aware of what they were doing. Some of the women actually took their furniture and clothes and stacked them a short distance from their homes, no doubt thinking if the house burned the goods would be safe.

My sister Minnie and I worked frantically at the pump in the yard, trying to get enough water to wet the grass around the house and so save it in case the fire jumped the guards on the outskirts of town. But the wind was so strong that it blew most of the water away before it reached the pail, and we were drenched. At least, we were too wet to burn! We talked it over and decided that if the fire did come we would roll ourselves in wet blankets, lie down in the middle of the garden, and cover our heads until it had passed. For half an hour we waited, expecting to see the flames burst upon us at any moment. Finally a man drove up to the house for water and told us the danger was over.

All night the wind was like a hurricane. Watchmen were placed at various points to see that the fire did not revive in spots and send sparks inside the guard. Women whose husbands were on watch were afraid to stay alone, and I remember I was sent to stay with a Mrs. Butler whose husband had a hardware store. I hope I was a comfort and a "pillar of strength" to her, though I certainly didn't feel that way.

The next morning the wind had subsided and only the blackened prairies, stretching out in all directions, told the story of the excitement and horror of the day before. People began coming in from the surrounding country; many of them had lost houses, barns, and stock, and had it been fall instead of early spring, the outlook would have been discouraging indeed. When the news reached the east, people gave generously to help the "Dakota sufferers." Committees were formed to receive and distribute the goods that were sent. As is often the case, those who deserved the most often got the least. Some families were so well fitted out with clothes that they were better off than they had ever been before. Farmers who had never worn anything excepting overalls and denim shirts and jackets created much amusement by appearing in town dressed in swallow-tailed coats and stiff hats. One man is said to have received seventeen suits of clothes.

A prairie fire is a beautiful sight when seen at a distance on a still night from the top of some high butte, but it is a different sight when it is coming straight toward your home driven by a terrific gale. It leaves an imprint on one's memory that is not soon effaced.

—Calla Westover Lloyd-Jones.

## Clearwater

(Written by Philomena Hoefler from information told her by  
Mrs. E. F. Mercer)

A Mr. Price, who built the building which is now the poor farm, planned and started the town of Clearwater on the present site of the

poor farm, about four miles east of Blunt. Because he did not build it up enough and would not give land to the railroad, his town did not grow into more than a water tank and siding. The rival town started on land owned by a man named Blunt and became the big town, Blunt. However, the water tank stood for many years at Clearwater where the engines stopped to take on water.

## Mrs. Snell's Early Adventures in Hughes Co.

It was in the spring of 1884 when I had my first glimpse of Hughes County. At the age of six my parents brought me here in a covered wagon, drawn by a team of oxen. We were two weeks coming from Howard to Harrold.

When we reached Harrold we pitched our tents and prepared supper. We took the cloth cover off the wagon and slept in it. When winter came we lived in a dugout with a sod roof. Many a night I have helped my folks twist hay for fuel.

In our spare time my sister and I would go out and pick up buffalo horns, and my grandmother would clean them, make them into pin cushions, and send them to our relatives in Iowa.

My father would plow land for a living. He would plow for the neighbors. The oxen would not stay in the furrow, so my sister and I barefoot, led the oxen.

In the winter of 1888 on January 12, a great blizzard swept through Hughes County. My sister, mother, and I were staying in a small house about a mile from the school house, so that my sister and I could attend school. It was about 8 o'clock in the morning when it started to snow and blow. We had but one chunk of coal in the house, so we took the quilts off the two beds, put them all on one bed, then we all went to bed to keep from freezing to death, expecting any minute that the house would blow down; but it stood the awful wind.

Then in the year 1889 a great fire swept through. It burned many homes and people, but we saw it coming in time and father plowed a fire guard around the farm, and our place escaped the disaster.

—Bertha Thorne

## Another Early Family

I came to S. Dak. in April, 1886, worked in the range country until June, 1892, when I came to Hughes county with a horse outfit, selling horses.

Settled in Bretton township in October, 1893. In those days when we went to the county seat we generally drove a team, taking several days to make the trip.

Taxes were very low. We rented the place we lived on for the taxes which was about twenty-five dollars for three quarter sections. We cut hay where we could find it, depending on how far from the water the stock would go.

Our teacher received thirty to thirty-five dollars per month for a term of six months.

Money could be borrowed at the bank for twelve percent interest, on stock. On land it was hard to obtain—twelve percent interest, with one year's interest taken out when you received the money.

We bought articles cheaper in those days. We bought a five foot Deering mower in Harrold from Tom Leach Hardware for twenty-four dollars.

The winter of 1896 and '97 was extra long and snow was deep. We had to buy large quantities of feed, but it looks now like it was cheap. Mixed bran and shorts, car lots at seven dollars and a quarter per ton in Harrold. Ground corn eleven dollars per ton. Shelled corn twenty-six cents per bushel—all shipped in.

Stockmen figured growth of steers at ten dollars per year and generally kept them till three or four years old. A great many sold by the head.

Sheep were about four dollars per head in 1892 but took a bad slump the next year and did not recover for several years. "I know, I tried it." Horses were plentiful and easy to obtain. Livery barns were about as numerous in this town as oil stations are now and had plenty of business.

—J. C. Higgins.

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June 1889 we arrived in Blunt, S. D., to remain till October. We spent that summer on South Chapelle creek, a mile from the junction of north and south forks. Neighbors were few and far between.

The work of getting hay for winter feed was not an easy task. There was lack of moisture and hay was obtained from dry lake beds 8 or 10 miles away, making a long haul. The mowers cut part of the day, then the hay was raked and loaded in racks to take home. The native grass cured quickly, so each day's trip with a team meant a load of hay on returning.

In 1890 we filed and settled on a claim at the junction of North and South Chapelle, where we operated a cattle and horse ranch for a number of years.

Our nearest post office was De Grey about two miles down the creek. "Hank" Jones, Postmaster for many years, was a prominent character in the history, settlement and activities along the Missouri river in that locality.

Indians stopped at our place frequently, often pitching their tepees near and remaining a day or two on their journeys to or from the Indian Agency or where their wanderings took them.

During all our experiences with our Indian neighbors there was never any evidence of hostility, even at the time of the trouble of the Messiah War and the killing of Sitting Bull.

After selling our ranch we lived in Blunt a few years operating the Westover livery barn. With but one train a day traveling salesmen were

forced to hire livery rigs to take them to surrounding towns in order to save time.

The winter of 1896 and '97 was severe, beginning October 27th and continuing till late March and early April, when the deep snow melted, raising Medicine creek almost to the point of flooding the town.

The following summer was very dry.

In 1899 we moved to Bretton township. In 1900 an outbreak of anthrax caused severe loss to cattle raisers in this locality. For a few years new settlers came in and farming was done on a larger scale, flax being planted on new breaking. About this time steam tractors came into use in farming and later gas tractors were used to break up the country and it has been "broke" ever since.

The depression, grasshoppers and drouth of the years 1929 to 1937 have resulted in a greater percentage of the people being now on relief.

—(Mrs.) Etta B. (Westover) Higgins.

Philip Pietrus and wife came to this county in 1894 and soon leased the place 7 miles northeast of Pierre where Mrs. Pietrus and son George still reside. After renting for a while they bought the place and now have 6 deeded quarters of excellent land. Philip died in 1911. Both were born in Germany. Their marriage took place at Minnesota Lake, Minn. Mrs. Pietrus was formerly Pauline Roadkiewka. The children are Hattie Hengel, Pierre; Bertha, Mitchell; Ann Rit, St. Peter, Minn.; George and Charley, Hughes county ranchers.

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Andrew Peterson came from Sweeden and landed in Hughes county in 1883, settling on a homestead 17 miles northeast of Pierre. His wife and daughter, Alma, did not arrive until 1898. Mr. Peterson later sold out to Mrs. Eliza Hickey. He died May 29, 1926 and rests in Riverside cemetery. The mother still lives in Austin, Texas.

Ole Westlund's parents came here in 1882. His father was Magnus Westlund. He died in 1911 and his wife died in March, 1931. Ole and Alma Peterson were wed March 18, 1906 and resided in Byron township. They have two children, Ruth Jacobs and Edith Davis. Other children of Magnus,—Selma Brown, Pete, Ida Smith, Ben, John, Magnus, Albert, and Ernest.

## Life of a Pioneer Family

In 1882 Clark Howard came to South Dakota and filed on a homestead in the northwestern part of Hughes county. After arranging business matters satisfactorily, this pioneer returned to his native state, Iowa, and in the early part of the summer of 1883 he came back with his family to his new home in the Middle West.

After traveling some days in an old-fashioned train, these people arrived at the would-be-town of Blunt. Their few properties were gathered into wagons to be taken to the country. The first meal was enjoyed in the open. A cookstove and a table had been unloaded from one wagon and dinner was prepared.



Mr. Howard at once built a kind of house-barn for temporary use. It was 64 feet long and was partitioned into two parts. The cattle, horses, and a very few other animals had possession of one-half of this building, while the children and parents lived in the other half. The two daughters and one of the sons prepared some of the land to plant some late grain while the father started to build a house. The children used a one-horse walking plow and a very crude seeder to sow the grain. A great deal of sugar cane was planted and when harvest came this was ground up and the juice was made into molasses. Some of this was sold and some was kept for home use.

Before winter came the house was almost completed. There was no window glass in the windows and no shingles on the roof, but the floor of the upstairs served as a roof for the floor below. What a proud family moved into this "place."

Most of the water had to be hauled from Blunt in barrels; very few people were fortunate enough to have wells on their claims. One day the only barrel of water was spilled and Mr. Howard went to his neighbor's padlocked well to borrow one pail of water. The neighbor kindly but firmly told the newcomer he would not lend any water. Many barrels of water had to be kept on hand in case a prairie fire should start.

New buildings were built on the "farm," but only those that were absolutely necessary. Mr. Howard planted many trees around his place to improve its appearance. A few of these trees are still alive and have grown very large.

Other interesting events were experienced by this pioneer and his family. The old homestead has now been greatly improved. The old house has been remodeled and other buildings have been built. Some tools and an old cellarhole of the blacksmith shop remain to tell of one occupation of the old pioneer.

—Harriet Miles.

## Early Hughes County Pioneer Answers Call

Another of Hughes county's pioneers answered the call of time when Lorenze Osterkamp, 71, passed away at the home of his son Albert at Bruno, Minnesota, Tuesday evening. The deceased, a resident of this section for 50 years, went to Muscatine, Iowa, during the month of May this year to seek medical aid from an illness of many years standing, and for the past several months had made his home at Bruno.

Lorenze Osterkamp was born near Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on January 20, 1865, coming to South Dakota during the settlement of the central part of the state in 1884 at which time he was 20 years of age. He homesteaded on a farm in Sully county, northwest of Blunt where he resided until retiring to a small farm at the western border of Blunt in 1910. At the age of 28 he entered matrimony with Miss Fena Mundt and the young people toiled under the existing conditions and hardships of early South Dakota pioneer life. Five children came to bless the home of this

union and were reared under the guiding hand and strict regulations of the father.

Lorenze Osterkamp is survived by five children—four sons, Albert of Bruno, Minnesota; Carl, John and Harry, of Blunt; one daughter, Tessie, of Blunt; two sisters Mrs. Mary Garner of Aptos, California; Mrs. Lizzie Snow of Anoka, Minnesota. He was preceeded in death by his wife a number of years ago.—Blunt Advocate, September, 1936.

## Mrs. Sarah Fillmore Enters Eternal Sleep

Remorse entered the hearts of the entire community today as news came that Mrs. Sarah Fillmore, one of Blunt's grand old women, had passed away. Few people have been afforded the high esteem of the community as was this pioneer of early South Dakota history.

Sarah Fillmore had reached the ripe old age of 80 years when she succumbed to her eternal sleep but possessed a keen and brilliant mental capacity until a few days before death came. She was at all times interested in affairs concerning the betterment of the community. She also was keenly and earnestly interested in promotion of religious advancement and was always in close communion with her Heavenly Father and her faith was a sacred institute.

The deceased came to Blunt with her husband with a group of early immigrants and resided for a number of years on a farm near Blunt. Since the death of Mr. Fillmore some fifteen years ago, she has made her home at the James A. Howard home. Mrs. Howard, a daughter, preceded her in death a number of years ago. Since the passing of James Howard, Mrs. Fillmore made her home with Richard Howard, a grandson.—Blunt Advocate, Sept., 1936.

## Mrs. Walter Hunsley Will Be Missed

Friends and acquaintances of Mrs. Walter Hunsley, formerly Jessie Chamberlain, were sorry to hear this spring (1937) of her death. Although she had been a sufferer for sometime with a cancerous condition, she was able until nearly the time of her death to be about. Her appearance and general behavior did not alarm those with whom she came in contact as she was not prone to complain.

Mrs. Hunsley served as a school treasurer for a number of years in Byron district. She never lost interest in education and community affairs. Only two years ago she represented the Sunnyside P. T. A. as a delegate at the state convention at Rapid City.

She was born and reared in Clifton township, Sully county. She is survived by three manly sons, Maurice, Clement and Lyle. Her husband still continues to reside on the ranch near Blunt, where the family has lived many years.—March, 1937.

## Trask-Babel Past

In 1894 Lorenzo Trask left West Plains, Mo., in a prairie schooner and reached Blunt the same year. With him were 4 sons; Albert, Art, Sherman and Walter. Mrs. Trask and two smaller sons came by train by way of Renwick, Iowa. Howard was one of these. Lorenzo made a home in Blunt which was occupied by the family until a cyclone destroyed it in 1915.

He worked with W. W. Waite in the implement business; he also did considerable farming. He also ran a furniture store and did an undertaking business. Mr. Trask died in 1926 and his wife preceeded him to the promised land in 1911. They rest in the Renwick cemetery. Lorenzo was in service in the Civil War for 4 years, and was 84 at the time of his death.

He was under Sherman when the military leader was a colonel. Trask's company won highest honors at Vicksburg by planting the Union colors on the spot where they would do the most good. 63% of the company were killed. Only two sons are alive at present; Albert of Aberdeen and Howard, of Pierre. The latter wed Genevieve Babel in 1917.

G. C. Babel and family arrived in Blunt in 1908. Although the family lived in town, Mr. Babel was an extensive farmer in the surrounding community. He owned the Blunt Light Plant for 10 years or until it was sold to the Northern States Power Co. He died in 1929. They had only one child, Genevieve, who is now Mrs. Howard Trask of Pierre. Her mother lives with them. The Trasks and Babels jointly owned a high-wheeled International auto;; they needed to as it took several to run it .

—Mrs. Howard Trask.

## Letter From Mrs. Alvord

3928 Huntington Street, July 11, 1934, Chevy Chase, D. C.

My dear Mr. (Gus) Kleinschmidt:

Your letter came as a great surprise and it was certainly nice of you to remember me by writing. It is many years since I heard from anyone who knew me at Blunt.

We see Charles H. Burke occasionally, though not often.

My brother Arthur died in September, 1932 in Ava, Missouri. He came to Washington the year before that and spent the winter with us, but at that time he was very feeble and did not live long. My brother Ed is in Fargo and we expected him to meet us this summer but illness prevented the trip at that time.

The photo shows that you have a nice looking family; I am glad the mother was spared until the children were old enough to look out for you and themselves.

Mr. Alvord and I have been blessed with good health and we think we have a fine family too. My son is a lawyer in partnership with his father. We have one daughter married living in Washington and another who works in New York.

Neither Mr. Alvord nor myself are "White as a rabbit" though there

are some streaks of gray visible. He looks about 60 yet he is 74. He goes to work every day and enjoys it. I am too busy to think about my age, just past 70. I am active in church and Sunday School and lots of other things.

I believe Jennie Stone is the only one of her family living. Isn't May Cowan married? Do you know anything about Alice, Bob or Harry Hall?

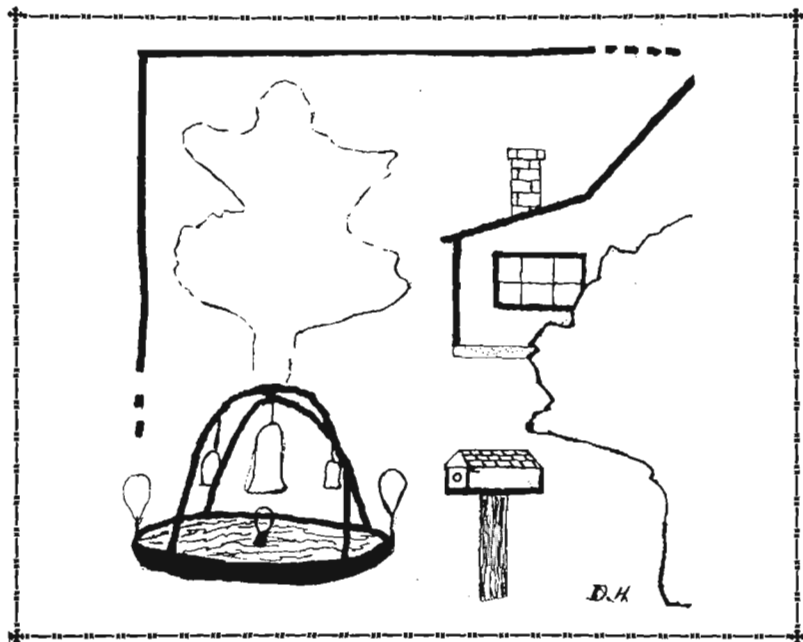
I often think of my days in Blunt; it was a great experience. Mr. Alvord and I are taking a trip to England this summer leaving New York the 28th to be gone a month.

Sincerest regards to you and former friends,

—Mrs. E.C.Alvord.

Note: E. J. Moore, Grand Recorder, A. O. U. W., Fargo, is a brother of Mrs. Alvord. Bob Hall she speaks about is State Game Warden at Mobridge. Edward E. Graham, 515 North Marian St., Mt. Pulaski, Ill., was a schoolmate in the early 80's of Mrs. Alvord and the undersigned at Blunt.

—Gus Kleinschmidt.



The above drawing made by David Hall shows a bird bath and swings in the yard at the Frank A. House home in Blunt. Mr. and Mrs. House also have provided a number of bird houses in trees and under the eaves of the commodious home. A feeding shelter is near the bath. Many varieties of bird friends have learned to visit and make their seasonal homes here. This shows a commendable interest on the part of this hospitable couple. They have spent many years and invested considerable money within the borders of the county.

## Edw. Nothdurft Contributes

I'll give you a little of my own history. I came to Harrold, May 20, 1885. It was quite a change from Germany to Harrold; we were two weeks on the ocean. The Indians used to go in tribes in 1885. I had to walk three miles to school and received about four months schooling a year.

I worked out herding cattle north of Harrold when twelve years old. I herded sixty head of cattle, always on foot, for which I received board and clothing that summer. The next year I herded cattle at home most of the time. My brother or sister were with me; we used to milk cows when we got thirsty.

From then on I worked out here, there, and everywhere when I did not go to school. The years of 1888 and 1889 were tough. I remember the blizzard of 1888. I think in the year of 1889 we all worked in the field. This includes mother and sister; we pulled the flax out by the roots on about twenty acres. It grew in patches; it took us about two weeks to finish the job. Dad would come every night with a stone boat and haul it home. Some of it was destroyed by the neighbors' cattle; we received a few dollars damage. That same winter we had no meat except jack rabbits; it took two jacks a day. We also had no potatoes; just bread and jacks.

In spring we had relief which consisted of one pail of salted herrings, one sack of flour, and one pair of shoes. From that winter on it went a little better; the men got some work. In the year of 1894 I worked as a section hand on the railroad where I worked 14 months in three summers. I paid \$10 a month for board and washing, and \$20 for rent at home. That left me about \$2 to \$3 for my clothing.

The last summer that I worked there I blew myself for the first suit of clothes for the big sum of \$6. I was then twenty-one years of age. From then on I worked on stock ranches until 1902 when I filed on a homestead in Webster township. This has been my home for forty-eight years. In the winter I worked for \$8 to \$10 a month.

## Chris Bronemann, A Cattleman

My father came here about 1904; living two years in Hyde county before locating in Webster township in Hughes. He came from Monticello, Iowa. His wife was Annie Riggles and they were married before coming to South Dakota. She passed away in October, 1936. Their children are Albert, Claribel Harris, Carl, Raymond, Glen and myself.

—William Bronemann.

## Butte Breezes

John Eisemann and Paul Kepstine were among the first settlers in this township. John was a squatter on the SW¼ of section 3 which he subsequently acquired by homestead, before the Indian trouble with settlers.

John and Paul herded cattle during the summers until the numerous settlers made extensive cattle raising difficult. Paul remained in the ranch business until his death in 1894.

John Elsemann was married on April 4, 1894 to Carrie Peterson of Harrold. Her father was Peter Peterson who filed and lived on section 12 in Bretton township in the fall of 1881.

Albert, Magnus and John Enstad settled in Butte district in 1895. Magnus was married on October 16, 1901 to Ida Marks of Highmore. They still make their home in Butte.

Pat and Joe Davis are pioneers here, arriving about 1892, and still remain ranchers with fine herds of horses and cattle.

Ray P. Pool lived in Butte for a number of years on the place vacated by Paul Dubro a couple of years ago. He taught school at the Snake Butte school, sometimes called the "Steiner" school. It was located near the cheese factory, a modern plant built by John Steiner.

Allie De Wolfe operated quite a ranch near the reservation in this district. The place is now operated by Robert Morrison.

The first term of school in Butte was held in 1901-02 in the Peter Peterson home. Mrs. Maude Hammer Latta was the teacher. The first school house was built in 1905 on section 8.

Peter Peterson was a half brother of mine. He reached Hughes county in 1889 as the railroad pushed into this territory. He homesteaded in Bretton along with Rich Garrett, Capt. Latta and my father, Peter P. Enstad. I taught school here in 1902-03.

—Magnus P. Enstad.

## A Resident Near Harrold

Henrikus Krull was born Dec. 27, 1861, in Strakholt, Germany. Died May 6, 1932. He came to America in 1881 and settled in Grundy County, Iowa. He went to school some to learn the English language. He was married to Reenstine Claassen at Sibley, Iowa, Mar. 14, 1894, where they lived for 5 years before moving to South Dakota, settling in Clark county and later moving to Kingsbury county. In 1907 he came to Hughes county and took up a claim 9 miles southwest of Harrold.

Reenstine Etta Johanna Claassen was born Nov. 17, 1869, in Grosz Medlum, Germany, and died Oct. 7, 1934.

She and her sister, Mrs. Kate Petersen of Harrold, came to America in 1891. Going to St. Louis, Missouri, where they lived 2 years, then moving to Grundy county, Iowa, where she met Mr. Krull.

—Mrs. Albert Burki, a daughter, Blunt.

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A large number of friends and neighbors were in attendance at the funeral of Henry Krull Sunday to pay their last respects to one who was an old settler here. The Krull home has long been noted for its

hospitality and many a traveler has received food and shelter there. Mr. Krull will be greatly missed by all who knew him and the family has the sympathy of the entire community.

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The passing of Mrs. Krull has removed one of Webster township's long time and highly respected citizens. No doubt Mrs. Krull has extended hospitality to more people, both friends and strangers, than any other resident of this locality as the latch string was always out at the Krull home. The sympathy of the entire community is extended to the family at this time.

From Harrold Journal

## Claus Erp, A Hardy Pioneer

Claus Frederick Erp was born in Holstein, Germany, in 1857. He came to Dakota in 1883. He took up a homestead in Webster township, Hughes county. In addition he filed on a preemption and tree claim. He did his first breaking with two mules, one horse and one ox. Some team! One mule was handy to shake hands with his hind legs; Claus became mad one day and threw an axe at the mule, nearly cutting off the mule's foot.

About 1886 and 1887 he walked to the Black Hills four times; the last time he rode a pony back. He was working in Fall River county as work was scarce near his homestead. After that he went to Wisconsin and worked in a lumber camp two years. After returning he looked for water on his land. He dug one well alone, 25 feet deep; he pulled the dirt up from the bottom and had a device for dumping it. He also let himself up and down in the well by hand. Mr. Erp then spent two years in a Washington lumber camp. On his return he stopped at Clark, S. D. and bought some cattle which he drove home afoot. He seemed to get ahead raising cattle and horses and went to Iowa where he married Mrs. Christina Jessen in 1900. Besides being busy on his ranch Claus found time to make extra money by making hay and other such tasks for neighbors. He accumulated considerable property by thrift and industry in the live stock business; he never raised grain for market but fed what he raised on the place. He had one of the best built up farmsteads in the county. The house cost \$7500, without the excavating and gravel hauling; it is modern in every way.

He lost \$1800 in the First State Bank of Harrold. In 1888, January 12, he nearly lost his life in a blizzard. He became cold and bewildered but happily ran upon a little tree which he recognized, and going from tree to tree he reached his house. These trees were planted in rows four feet apart by John P. Nothdurft.

On Dec. 7, 1929 he left for that haven where troubles are unknown. He was a member of the Lutheran church. He was 21 years of age when he came from Germany, therefore he could read and write German. He had 5 children: Frank Erp, Lilly Erp, Henry, Herman and Hannah Jessen. Burial was made at Harrold.

## What Happened to Mr. Charles Brekke

Charles Brekke was born in 1872. His life has been one of romance and adventure.

When he was a boy South Dakota was wild and wooly, especially Hughes County, in the days of the saloons when it was not uncommon for four or five men to be knocked out with beer bottles in one night. In the nineties when Mr. Brekke came to Canning it was quite a large town.

In 1897 some horse thieves rustled about twenty head of Mr. Brekke's thoroughbred horses. Charles and his brother tracked the horses clear up into Sully County where they found the horses.

When Mr. Brekke started farming he was very unsuccessful, if it wasn't drouth, the grasshoppers were so thick that they hid the sun; therefore, he didn't raise many crops. Charles has killed ninety-nine rattlesnakes in one day while working. He also saved his brother from being harmed by a rattlesnake.

—James Forney.

## Henry H. Brekke

Henry H. Brekke was born in Norway. He and his wife came to Pierre in 1881 and ran a Feed and Grocery Store. To this union was born eight children, four boys and four girls. In 1882 he filed claim on Home Place midway between Blunt and Canning. He continued to operate his store. He enlarged his business by dealing in livestock. In his store he furnished dressed meat, eggs, and cream, (he milked several cows.)

In addition to Home Place, he had property and lived in Pierre. He didn't farm, although he ran many cattle and horses and developed quite a ranch. In Pierre he ran a Meat Market and Bakery. He was chairman on the Valley School District for several years.

Charles Brekke, his son, who lives 6 miles N. W. of Canning lost his mother, Mrs. Henry H. Brekke, in 1920. It was during a March storm. She slipped and fell out side and was unable to get up and get back in the house. It was night and her presence from the house was not noticed at once. Her right hand was frozen and gangrene set in.

Charles was married in 1905 to Kate Rasmussen and they located 22 miles north of Highmore, in Banner township. They sold out there in 1918 and have since lived in Hughes county; most of the time in Canning township. He had six children—four girls, two boys. Charles engaged in a number of occupations, such as, railroad work and farming, etc.

He has seen several floods on Medicine Creek which mounted up to the railroad grading. On Sunday, June 5, 1892, S.W. of Harrold at the Peter Enstad place occupied by Charles Brekke, storm clouds were seen to gather in the northwest. It proved to be a cloud burst and water came down in vast quantities. He had two pure bred Durham bulls



staked out on the opposite side of the creek and he swam over to release their picket chains. Midway he stopped to rest himself by holding on to a bridge which washed away while he was thus resting. He succeeded in releasing the bulls satisfactorily and crossed the stream by hanging on the tail of one of the animals as it swam across the stream.

K. M. Foote lived one mile south of Medicine Creek in the same locality. They were at the home of a neighbor, John O'Donnell, and started home. Mrs. Foote, Myrtle, Bert and the baby were in a buggy. It upset in the creek and all were drowned. The bodies were found a mile down stream. When they were buried K. M. Foote had to be held; he wanted to jump into his wife's grave.

—Chas. Brekke.

## Mrs. Harris In Texas

I am sure that all living here who knew the George Harris family before they moved to Texas (about 1914) will welcome word as to how they have fared since reaching the Lone Star state. I visited their home first when stationed at Ellington Aviation field, Houston, at Christmas in 1918.

They purchased a historic 2000 acre ranch belonging to a nationally known mathematician and philosopher named Montgomery. Elizabeth A., his wife, was a niece of Marshal Ney, of France. She was the first noted southern sculpturess. Their home, called "Liendo," was a confederate camping ground in 1863-64. The mail and trading point is Hempstead. Before I knew of the Harris location in 1918 I wandered one Sunday near San Leon a few miles from where I was stationed and was attracted to an old graveyard where time and age had toppled a number of the tombstones awry; my eyes popped as I read an inscription, "Captain Peter Trumbo, 1st S. D. Cavalry." This referred to the grandfather of Mrs. Harris, formerly Laura Trumbo.

Four times since 1918 I have visited at the Harris Texas home, once for a week 4 years ago with my family. Their plantation has about 20 tenants, each caring for a small tract of land. Watermelons are raised mostly and without irrigation as it is in a favored region about 40 miles north of Houston. The place is a mecca for tourists interested in history.

We are sure that Mrs. Harris would wish to be remembered to her many friends up in Dakota. Her husband, George, died in 1935.

—Charles Lee Hyde.

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## The Raber Tumbleweed

We are indebted to Mrs. C. G. Mathews, of Miller, for the June, August and November issues of THE RABER TUMBLEWEED for 1918. This publication was issued for a period during the World War by some of the patriotic citizens of Raber township. We find this editorial staff

listed: Editor, Grace DuBois; Reporters, George Mathews, John Kinyon, Lucile Potter, Conrad Cooper, Laura Keyes and Florence Nole. Cartoonist, Judd Keyes; Secretary-Treasurer, Cecil Cooper.

They list the boys in service who received THE TUMBLEWEED: Norval, Kenneth and Fred Cooper; Edward J. and Frank Mathews; Grant Sylvester; Frederick Steiner; Douglas Junkman; Arthur Mayer; Samuel Gardner Peterson; Rudolph Steiner; Clark Dristy; William A. Blake; David W. Junkman; Milton Hausman; Ray Grove; Wade Wilson.

This four-page publication carried news from the home folks, with plenty of jokes to make the boys happy and with articles loaded with encouragement for homesick soldiers.

These sheets are becoming yellowed with age and need tender care so we are dispatching them back to Mrs. Mathews with our thanks for the loan of them.

—Bert L. Hall.

## C. G. Mathews and Family

In 1907 C. G. Mathews moved from Howard to Hughes County with his family and located at Arnott. Gottlieb Geiger owned the land and he operated a small store and postoffice. This was purchased by Mr. Mathews who continued to operate the same. Mrs. Will Congdon was the only child of the Geigers.

There were ten children in the Mathews family, six of whom are alive as this is written in 1937. They are, James, Great Falls, Montana; Tom, Pierre, S. D.; Frank, George, Edward, Miller, S. D.; Laura, (Mrs. Mike Hogan), Pierre.

Tom, who has a responsible position as field man for the Kansas City Life Insurance Company, has given the writer much encouragement in the promotion of this publication. He is a firm believer in the value of permanently preserving the history as handed down by the pioneers. He is convinced that Hughes county is overlooking an asset by neglecting to have an Old Settlers Association. He will be one willing to help promote such an organization when there is sufficient interest among the old timers. Such groups in other counties have accomplished much by way of annual picnics, gathering and preserving old records and in marking historic spots.

—B. L. H.

## The Blake Family

Mr. and Mrs. Frank M. Blake, originally from Bremer county, Iowa, came to Hughes county in 1906 to live on their homestead; they had filed on a quarter section of land in Butte township.

As they had several head of cattle, the fine buffalo grass was attractive, and they planned to make the homestead their permanent home.

Five of their eight children were living at home at this time. One son also took government land adjoining his father's claim, which gave the advantage of more grazing land and water.

Mr. and Mrs. Blake believed in education. The two youngest children attended the grade schools of Hughes county when the school-houses were not the comfortable modern buildings of today. A great number of the teachers were from other states, especially those farther east.

Stock-raising was profitable but farming was not so successful, so after living on their homestead for about eleven years, they moved to Pierre, later buying a home.

The Blakes lived in Pierre about 9 years, but their last years were not spent in Hughes county. In the spring of 1927 they went to Beadle county to live with a son who was farming there, but they later moved to Huron because of failing health.

Mr. Blake passed away Aug. 13, 1935 and Mrs. Blake lived until June 20, 1936. They were buried in the cemetery at Highmore.

—Laura Blake, Pierre, South Dakota.

## By An Old Timer

I came to Blunt on April 1, 1884 at the age of six years with my widowed mother, a young brother and sister. My mother brought an emigrant car containing a team, cow, chickens, farm machinery, and household possessions including a maltese cat and kittens.

She came intending to file on a homestead and expected to make it our home but found all desirable land within 19 or 20 miles of Blunt was taken. We resided in Blunt and waited for the opening of the Winnebago reservation which was about 18 miles south of town. It was finally opened by Pres. Chester Arthur when she placed a filing along Chapelle creek and had a house and fence built. Pres. Cleveland closed the reservation again and evicted all settlers which of course ruled us out. We then made Blunt our home for several years.

On July 4, 1884 Blunt held a celebration. It was very cold for this time of year and we kept a fire in the stove all day. There was a war dance of 500 braves in all their glory of war paint and feathers and not much else. They were accompanied by their families which were large in those days. It was a most awe inspiring spectacle to the Easterners. A number of us had come from Lincoln, Ill. and had settled in a colony.

A big prairie fire raged through the counties of Potter, Sully and Hughes from the Missouri on the west to the James river on the east and pretty thoroughly devastated the entire region. There were no relief agencies to help out in those days but lots of supplies of food, clothing, fuel and some money from the East helped to relieve suffering.

I remember the first session of the legislature held in Pierre and our Civil Government class came over and attended a session held in the original State House.

I married Will Potter in the spring of 1895 and made my home with him on a ranch on Chapelle creek where we resided for many years. We had a number of Indian neighbors which we liked as well as any we

had. We moved to Pierre in 1919. It was a change to get away from the ranch life. The country was well adapted to the stock business and Blunt and Harrold were big shipping points.

We will never forget the pleasant associations and the strong community spirit which prevailed in the Chapelle neighborhood. Social occasions, Sunday school and occasional church meetings make those years linger as a pleasant memory.

I have lived now in Stanley county for the past 7 years but still cling to Pierre as my favorite trading place and my "home town" and retain my church membership there. I still hope to see the country return to its past glory and many more prosperous years.

—Mary Condon Potter.

### Reminiscences of Ranch Life

A ranch, hidden among the hills,  
A sunset, that awes and thrills,  
Cattle lowing, along the creek,  
Coyotes yapping, so sly and sleek.  
Horses, running down to drink  
Quails calling, and bob-o-link,  
Camp-fires, smouldering in the breeze,  
Tents pitched, near a clump of trees.  
Branding-irons, hanging near the gate  
Cowboys, settling down to wait,  
Saddles thrown down in careless array,  
Lariats ready for use next day.  
Six-shooters oiled and hung on a peg,  
Water found, to fill the keg.  
Bacon, sizzling, in a pan—  
Coffee boiling, in a can.  
Pictures, fading with the light,  
Stars shining, o'erhead at night,  
Memories only of days that are past,  
Regretful always that they could not last.

—Maud Kirley Keyes, Piedmont, S. Dak., July 6, 1935.

### Crow Creek Reservation

Note: Mrs. Keyes was the wife of Judd Keyes; they were pioneers near Giddings. After Mr. Keyes died, the widow and sons, Burrell and Lowell, moved near Piedmont. Laura Doeden, a daughter, with her family lives nearby. Another daughter, Alice Bartlett, lives at DeGrey. Joe Kirley, one of the "firsts" at Pierre, was Mrs. Keyes' father.

### Mrs. Joseph Not Afraid Bear

Mrs. Joseph Not Afraid Bear was born at Medicine Rock near the Cheyenne Agency about 1846. When she was a year old her mother died.

When she was 16 years old, while riding a horse near Faulkton, she was shot through the hand and the pony which she was riding was killed.

She was married when 19. After her marriage she and her husband went to Bismarck, North Dakota, to make their home. To this union was born 9 children, Mrs. Jennie St. John, being the eldest. All of the rest of the children are deceased.

Mrs. Not Afraid Bear can remember when the Travois was in common use among the Indians.

Her husband is buried in Stephan, Hyde County.

Mrs. Not Afraid Bear makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Jennie St. John on Reynold's Creek, near Joe Creek P. O.

—Nov. 13, 1936, Mrs. Edw. Little Eagle.

## A Friend of Indians and Whites

Lou Oakley Gregory was born Sept. 29, 1866, at Fairfax, Iowa, and passed away at St. Mary's hospital in Pierre on April 20, 1935, after a week's illness from pneumonia, at the age of 68 years, 6 months and 21 days.

The deceased came to South Dakota in the year 1902 filing on a claim in Hughes county southeast of Arnott and has since made her home in that vicinity and in the Big Bend. She was married to William Gregory in 1903, who still survives her. She was known to relatives and friends as Aunt Lou and was a very likeable woman, always willing to help any one in need. She joined the United Brethren church when a girl and later became a member of the Episcopal church at Joe Creek and always took an active part in church and Sunday school activities.

Besides her husband and close relatives are a sister, Mrs. M. T. Skinner of St. Lawrence; two brothers, Charles of Manchester, Iowa, and James of Spangle, Wash., and a stepmother residing at the latter place. She was preceded in death by both parents, two sisters and two brothers.

Burial was made in the I. O. O. F. cemetery at St. Lawrence beside her sister, Belle, following funeral services at Harrold and St. Lawrence conducted by Rev David W. Clark. Thus has passed another of the faithful sturdy pioneers. May this Christian have the deserved reward following a career filled with frontier hardships.

—March 25, 1935, Harrold Journal.

## The Big Bend

In the prosperous days the Big Bend comprising the southern portion of the county was a paradise of productiveness with its nutritious grasses, prolific hay crop and fields of grain. Farming was not carried on extensively until after the World War. J. F. Schenegge, P. T. Hansen and the Gregg brothers were among those who did extensive tractor farming. Principally this region has been used for live stock raising. In the early '80's the Federal Government used the area for holding beef cattle for the Sioux Indians. Henry L. Jones and his brother-in-law,

Antoine De Grey had much to do with the handling of these cattle for a number of years. The latter died on Chapelle Creek and was buried on a hill east of De Grey postoffice, which was named for him.

About the old timers! My mother, Many Tracks, told about being taken to old Ft. Sully when it was established in 1863 along with a number of other peaceable Sioux who were taken there by General Armstrong for safety. She was only ten years old then. Her father was Standing Buffalo. She stayed in that vicinity until 16 years old, when she married Wm. Gilland, an officer; they settled near the Bad River mouth. William and Joseph were born there; Mary was born when the parents lived near Cedar Island; John (myself) was born above Ft. Thompson. Later my mother married Charles Barry about 1874. To this marriage was born Mary (Campbell), Catherine (Ross), Lucy (Fallis), Charley. This boy was killed by a horse in 1912 when his foot caught in a saddle stirrup. He was rescued in the clump of timber near the Wm. Dougherty buildings. He was 14 years old.

Mother said two Sioux women were scalped by Rees as they went to get water at the river; this was during the encampment at old Ft. Sully. One of them lived for quite awhile after being treated by an Indian medicine man.

St. John, a Frenchman, died before I could remember. He had two sons, Pete and Joe, both still residents of the Big Bend. His widow married D. K. Howe. George Howe and Mrs. Wm. Walker were their children. Later she married Mark Wells, a half-breed. Mark was occupied mainly as an agency interpreter. He was an uncle of John S. Wells, for many years a bonanza cattle man in Buffalo county. Sarah La Croix was Mark's sister. Mrs. Wells lived with her daughter, Mrs. Walker, until her death some months ago.

———— Sargent was an early settler and had two sons, John and Steven. Amos Arrow first lived at the mouth of Chaney Rush creek. He is one of the few Indian men still wearing long braids. Levi Big Eagle came here later than some of the others, yet has lived here a long time. George Corey, father of Mrs. Big Eagle, was an Englishman. Mrs. Big Eagle has been an invalid with rheumatism for a number of years. Henry Jacobs came here prior to 1890. He had been a student at Hampton Institute. His children, Willie, Ruth, and Reuben, are still alive. Ruth is Mrs. Frank Black; Willie is in Mass. in YMCA work; Reuben has a good position in the New England states. Leo Rabbit is another Bend Indian. Amos Shield was here in 1884 and with his wife still dwells below the Charles Arch ranch. His mother was Walks With Iron. Tom White came about the same time and is a cousin of Amos. His wife was Odelia Agard. They have a reputation for being neat and thrifty. William Dougherty and wife came about 1894 following the issuing of allotments starting in 1892-93. His wife was Louise Ward. Both are dead. Dog Cloud and Run All Around lived not far from the Dougherty ranch and were cousins. Both are dead.

—John A. Barry.



Indian Woman Tanning A Hide

### Pocket Items

Mrs. Not Afraid Bear, a Lower Yanktonian Sioux, was born near Bismarck, in N. D., 95 years ago. Her husband was the son of Chief White Bear whom she married when 19 years old. She remembers some of the peace treaties made between the Indians and the Government. She believes that 1936 was the driest and hottest summer of all her lifetime.

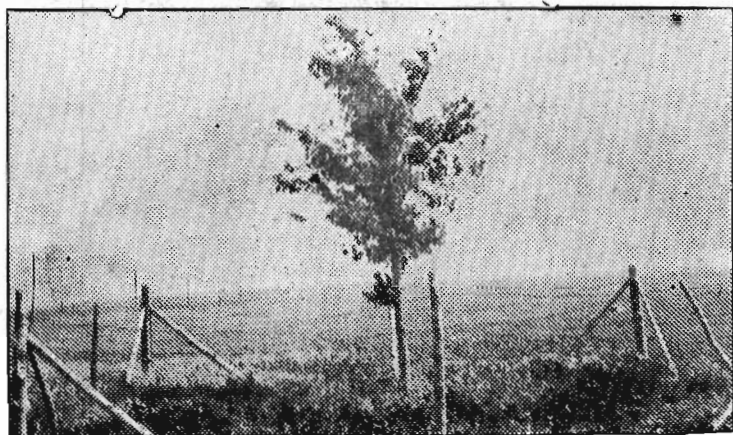
Edward Little Eagle, age 70, belongs to the same tribe. He once lived on the James river and remembers there was a Medicine Stone on a mound along that river. Only one person (Indian) could interpret the messages as revealed by this Stone. He would translate the messages to his people, such as "Buffaloes are near." Out in this country in these dry years we have no Medicine Stone to tell us that rain is coming, crops can be raised, or there are buffaloes to eat.

Bill Walker has been here about 30 years; Benny St. John was born here about 51 years ago; I came here 25 years ago.

—John Middle Tent, 1937.

Boss Farmers at Gov. Station, Big Bend—

Michael V. O'Shea; Jim Wells; Frank Kirk;—Bliss;—Ansted; George Boesl; Fred Fleury.



### **Center of South Dakota, in Hughes County**

#### **Extracts from "My County"**

By Marian Porter—1933

My county marks the center of a great state within the heart of a great continent. What location could promise a better background for interesting history and development? It abounds in Indian legends and historical facts, from the beginning of the exploration of the region, which dates from the earliest Missouri River navigation, to the present time.

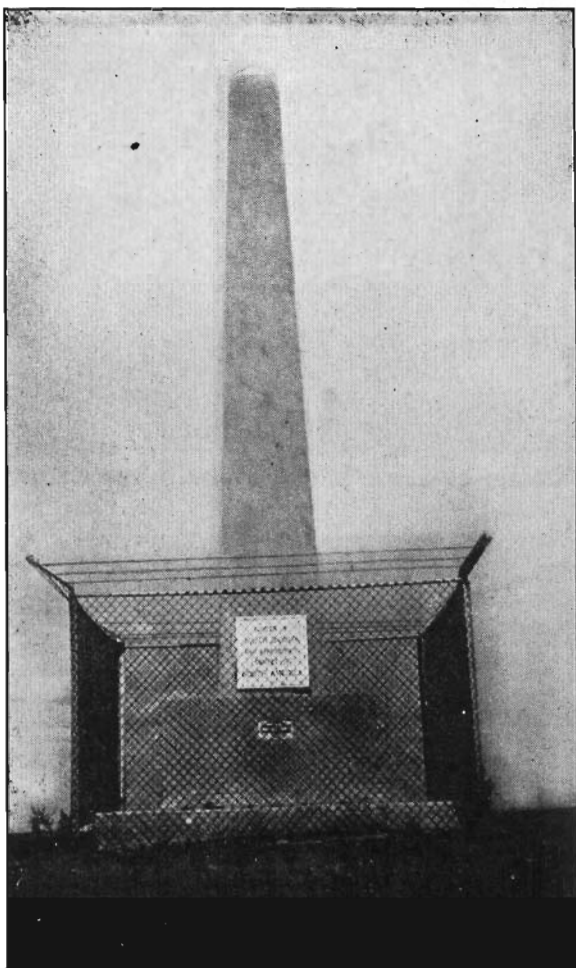
Hughes County lies in the exact geographical center of South Dakota. It is bounded on the north by Sully County, on the east by Hyde County, and on the south and west by the Missouri River. Its area is approximately 765 square miles and its population in 1930 was 7,006.

In 1855 General Harney wintered two cantonments of soldiers in Peoria Bottom about eighteen miles above Pierre. An officers' house was built then and still stands at the Joseph Pitlick place. However, these buildings were abandoned in 1856.

In 1907 the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad completed a railroad bridge across the Missouri River. Before this was completed all traffic had to cross the river in ferry boats or on nature's bridge of ice. A highway bridge was completed in 1926. This was a memorial to Stephen R. Riggs and sons.

We have other memorials in our county. A massive monument to the soldiers of the Grand Army of the Republic is located near the statehouse at Pierre. A granite monument marks the site of old Fort Sully about a mile east of Pierre Indian School. On the summit of Snake Butte stands a monument that marks the center of South





Photograph by The Miller Studio  
Center Monument, 5 Miles North of Pierre,  
Built by Chas. L. Hyde, Sr. and Dr. Doane Robinson

Dakota and the approximate center of North America. A bronze tablet upon Medicine Knoll near Blunt is in commemoration of the first Independence Day celebration in South Dakota, held July 4th, 1839, by John C. Fremont and his soldiers at that point. At the present time a Memorial Building to the soldiers of the World War is being constructed near the Capitol in Pierre. (Note: It is now completed and open to the public.)

## Monuments

L. K. Fox

The Lewis and Clark expedition of 1804-1806 has been given three monuments or markers in the state. The first was placed at Spirit Mound near Vermillion by the D. A. R.; the second west of the Missouri River near Mobridge by the Hickory Stick organization in special recognition of the services of Sakakawea, the Indian woman; and the third was built on Farm Island, Pierre city park, in 1935. Monuments to this expedition may be properly built all along the course of the Missouri river in South Dakota.

## Markers Put on Medicine Butte

Early last year a geodetic survey tower was constructed on the top of Medicine Butte, near the big snake, and was used to establish a definite and unchangeable location for all future geographic reference. It was a part of a chain of points being established all the way across the United States by the United States Department of Commerce Coastal and Geodetic Survey.

The tower, only temporary, was topped by intricate instruments to tie in with other similar towers so that the location could be definitely fixed.

After the towers had been erected everything was ready for the observing party, which consisted of one observer, two or three assistants, and six or seven light keepers. Observations to determine the approximate difference of elevation of the various stations were made in the afternoon, but all measurements of horizontal angles by which the distance between stations are computed were made at night. An instrument called a theodolite was used to measure angles.

Since points observed were 50 miles or more away, a light keeper was posted at each station to be observed upon. In the afternoon he showed a heliograph at each station, and at night a specially constructed electric light run by dry batteries was shown. The total cost of triangulation party per day it was estimated could run as high as \$75.00.

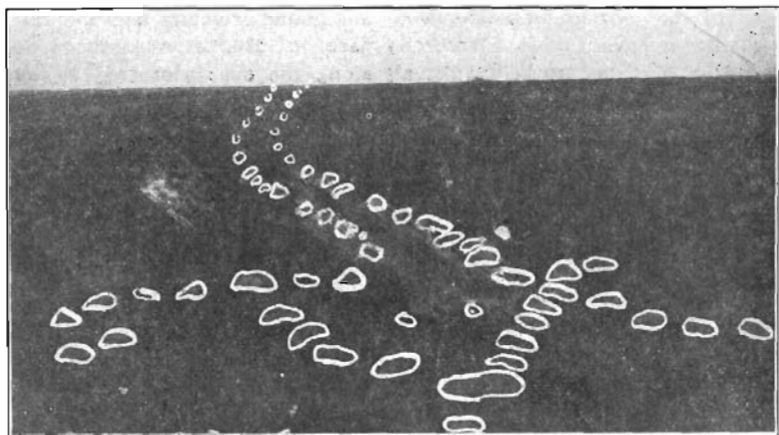
Next time you are on top of Medicine Butte, look for the cement markers made by the geodetic party.—Aug. 1, 1935.

## Government Trails

Another interesting thing which few people notice is the old Government Trails. Many of these can still be seen, and from the looks of the many beaten paths a great many hours were spent on these roads, and no telling all the hardship that has been encountered not only in a day, but for a great many years, by both whites and Indians.

An ordinary red colored rock that was in Section 14 of De Grey Township caused a great deal of comment, because of the fact that an

imprint of a human hand and two crow feet could be seen on the top. Recently this rock has been removed from its natural surroundings, thus spoiling part of its historical value to the people of the county and also South Dakota. No one seems to know what has become of this rock which has probably been in that same place for hundreds of years. (It would be fitting to place a MARKER on the old Schooner trail.)—B.L.H.

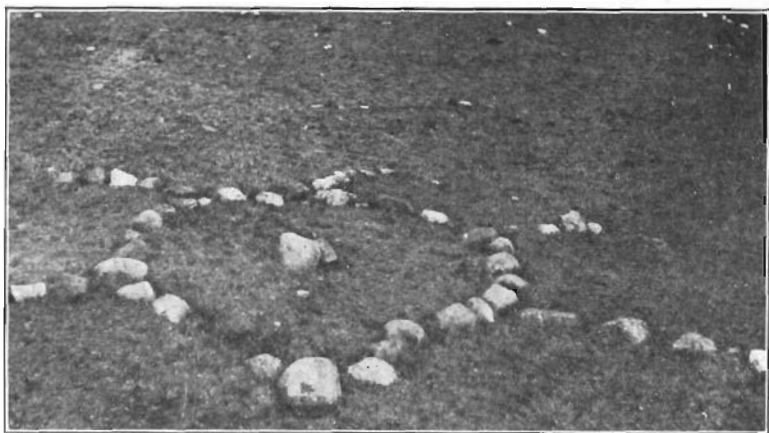


## Medicine Butte

About 5½ miles southwest of Blunt there are some hills called Medicine Butte. This high peak is the highest for many miles east of the Missouri river. A very pretty view of Medicine creek is visible from this prominence. On the east side there is a large landslide which does not show so plainly now but for a few years when fresh looked like plowed ground, at least from a distance. On the northwest side there is a rock snake, 2 feet wide and less than a block long. Many war-like tribes lived in this vicinity. When Indians near here found any of the other tribes or white people on their territory they attempted to capture them, and if successful, would line their warriors up on each side of the snake and require the captives to run the gauntlet (over the snake). If the fugitive came through alive he was given freedom, but this did not often happen.

This snake is hard to locate because stones have been rolled out by cattle and careless people. Many Indian graves may be found here also. On the east side is a large grave, thought to be the chief's. If it is we might find signs of his horse, dog, and weapons buried with him (should we dig down). This would enable him to ride and hunt in the "Happy Hunting Grounds." Some of the dead were buried sitting up facing the east. Sometimes they buried the beads and ornaments with the Indian women. For 3 or 4 feet down they wedged rocks down tight so the enemies or wild animals couldn't get them out.

—Centerview School.



## Snake Butte

On Snake Butte there is a long stone snake which was made by the Indians. This is one of the stories told about it. When the Indians lived here they had many battles. The Indian chief was hurt and wanted to get back to his tepee. For every drop of blood they put a stone which makes this stone snake which is over an eighth of a mile long. After the chief got to his tepee he died and some think he is buried within the iron fence which is there now. The fence surrounds a stone turtle.

—Annis Alleman, Grade V, Centerview.

## Fr. Ambrose Mattingly O. S. B.

Reverend Father Ambrose Mattingly O. S. B., better known to most people as just Fr. Ambrose, came to Stephan Mission, south of Highmore September 30th, 1888. He was only a cleric then but was ordained the following June 17th by the famous Indian Apostle Most Rev. Bishop M. Marty.

Fr. Pius Boehm was then Superintendent at the Mission and Fr. Ambrose immediately took over the job of teacher and boys' disciplinarian. Besides his duties at Stephan his missionary work took him far and wide. Aside from the work he did with the Indians on the Crow Creek and Lower Brule Reservations he cared for the white missions at Harrold, Highmore, Blunt, Arnott and DeGrey.

Since 1934 he has assisted Fr. Silvester Eiseman O. S. B. in his work among the Yankton Indians at Marty, South Dakota.

Fr. Ambrose has spent forty-eight years on the Dakota prairies and although not all of them have been spent in or near Hughes County, he has many friends and acquaintances here. He arrived here the fall af-

ter that big event which marks time in the lives of so many old timers, the "Big Blizzard of '88."

Sun, rain, cold and snow found the good Father on the road with his trusty team "Pet" and "Buck" which will be remembered by so many people. If a call came there was no hesitation on his part to start and at least try to reach his destination.

One of Fr. Ambrose's experiences in South Dakota was one he had with the "Old Muddy" January 1, 1914. He was crossing the river on the ice near De Grey when his team went into an air hole. They were drowned and it was with great difficulty that he saved himself. At first he was unable to pull himself out upon the ice but at last he hit upon the idea of letting his mitten freeze to the ice and then used that to hold to. He took a six mile walk afterwards.

January 13th, 1916 the main building at Stephan Mission burned.

Fr. Ambrose traveled many weary miles in his little Ford in the cause of his beloved Indian children. He at last succeeded in collecting enough money and Marty Hall, the new main building was erected. At all times his interest was in the Indians both large and small.

I am asked to state that Fr. Ambrose is one of the few men whom Kipling's "If" fits to perfection.

—Zetta Laughlin.

## Crow Hunt

The following explanation of a Crow Hunt is given by Harry Piner, a warden with the Game and Fish Department.

In the latter part of the afternoon, watch which way the crow flies. They collect at night usually in some trees. This is called the Crow Roost. Have your captain bring in his men quietly under the trees late in the twilight and if the men are quiet they can start to shoot while the crows are still roosting and can continue to shoot as they start to fly away. As many as 200 crows have been killed in a single expedition of this kind. Stuffed crows and owls make good decoys. Crow calls are quite effective. Imitation gravel containing dynamite is sometimes suspended in tree roosts. When picked by the crows it explodes, sometimes killing large numbers.

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Franklin Hyde, who has shot over 100 coyotes from a plane in this vicinity of the state, has had some pictures taken that show the hunters and the plane they use, along with a number of coyote skins. Pilot Robert Wiley operates the plane, while Mr. Hyde does the shooting. They use a Curaice Wright Pucher plane with the propeller back of the wings. The plane is not speedy and has a slow landing speed, which helps the hunters after spotting the coyotes.

—Daily Dakotan, Dec. 14, 1936.

Note: Since the above was printed Franklin has added another 100 pelts to his credit. The banner day slaughter was 9 coyotes, killed near Faith.

## Winter of 1935-36

For about six weeks beginning early in January the county and state passed through the severest stretches of cold weather that weather records tell. During that period the thermometer got above zero for only a few hours. Temperatures dropped as low as 40° below by private instruments in some parts of the county. The coldest shown by the government thermometer was 25° below on Feb. 5.

While the snowfall for the county perhaps did not exceed a foot, the wind repeatedly filled side roads with impassable drifts. Even the trunk highways were kept open with difficulty. Train service was irregular being stopped entirely once for three days.

Over the state in places conditions were even worse. Clyde Ice left Pierre on Sunday, Feb. 16, to go to isolated communities in the northwestern part of the state but was forced to land his ski-equipped plane at the Bill Horton ranch 3½ miles southeast of Dalzell in eastern Meade county. 3 days later he was in service scouting via air from the Rapid airport. Fred Hight, Belle Fourche and Walt Williams, Spearfish, were engaged in similar service. Families in distress were asked to wave a black rag or build a smudge out away from the buildings to attract the attention of the fliers. Snow was much deeper in the western and eastern parts of the state than here, consequently traffic was much worse blocked. Radio accounts stated that stores, churches and schools were being opened in parts of Lincoln county on February 21, the first time for several days.

(An extract from the Blunt Advocate of Feb. 14, 1936.)

## Hughes County Lakes

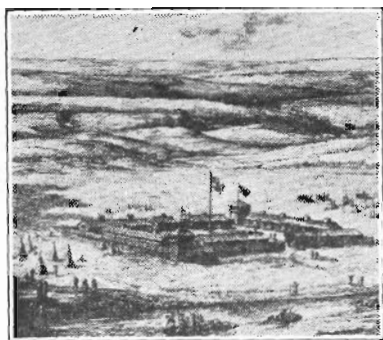
Due to dam building activity on the part of the Government a goodly number of well filled lakes are in evidence over the County. This impounding of run-off waters is evidently a wise program for this part of the country. Below is listed the location and water acre capacity of our dam lakes:

NW¼-29-112-76: 14 acres	13-112-75: 25 acres
6-112-76: 33.59 acres	13-112-74: 22 acres
13-111-75: 7.81 acres	16-112-74: 35 acres
36-111-78: 36.72 acres	22-112-74: 3 acres
5-111-76: 18.55 acres	31-110-75: 2 acres
9-110-76: 2.00 acres	16-112-76: 13 acres
24-25-111-77: 11.06 acres	15-112-76: 15 acres
30-111-78: 37.06 acres	18-112-74: 103.79 acres is stocked with croppies.

Total water acre capacity of the above is 379.57 acres.

There are three dams on the reservation also.

—D. W. Chesley, Highway Superintendent, 1937.



## The Gateway to the West Empire

### Historic Fort Pierre

Fort Pierre, historians tell us, is the most interesting point in the central northwest. It was here, in 1743, that Verendrye placed the leaden plate and took possession of the Northwest for France. LaRave visited here in 1802, and it was here Lewis and Clark held council in 1804.

### First White Settlement

The permanent settlement began in 1817 when Joseph LaFrambois built Fort Teton at the mouth of Bad river, which was taken over by the Columbian Fur Co. in 1822 and rebuilt as Fort Tecumseh. And at about this time the French Company erected an opposition post on the opposite side of Bad river.

### First July Fourth Observance

In 1825 the Peace and Intercourse Commission, headed by Gen. Atkinson and Major O'Fallon, arrived at Fort Tecumseh with an escort of 500 officers and men and concluded a treaty of peace with the Oglala, and also had the first formal celebration of Independence Day in South Dakota.

### First Steamboat Up Missouri

The first steamboat, "The Yellowstone," navigated to this point in 1831, and in 1832 a new post, Fort Pierre Chouteau, was completed, and for a quarter of a century was the center of the continental fur trade.

## North Western Railway from Pierre to Rapid City

I wish to advise that the cost of the bridge over the Missouri River between Pierre and Ft. Pierre, including approaches, was \$945,000.00.

The cost of the passenger station and office building was a little under \$90,000.00.

Work on the bridge was started early in 1906 and completed for the passage of trains in November 1907.

The Pennsylvania Steel Company furnished and erected the superstructure and Arthur McMullen of New York City had the contract for the foundations, that is, substructure.

It was necessary to construct and maintain a pile bridge over the Missouri River, during the time the river was frozen up in the winter of 1905-1906 and 1906-1907, in order to transport all of the construction material, ties, rail, bridge material, lumber, etc., for use in constructing the easterly eighty miles of the line. The material for the westerly ninety miles was shipped to and handled from Rapid City, that is to say, the easterly eighty miles of the line was built from Ft. Pierre west and the westerly ninety miles from Rapid City east, the two sections having been joined just west of Philip, about June 1907.

In addition to the bridge and depot, it was necessary to build what is known as the high line for the easterly approach to the bridge and, also, to build a considerable yard, roundhouse and engine terminal at East Pierre.

C. F. DIKE, Vice Pres., & Chief Engineer.

## Historian Reports On First Celebration

South Dakota's first Fourth of July celebration was staged in Fort Pierre 112 years ago—in 1825, according to Doane Robinson, former state historian.

Says Robinson: "In 1825 Gen. Henry Atkinson and Dr. Benj. O'Fallon were sent up the Missouri river with an escort of 476 men to make trade treaties with the Indians. When July 4th arrived they found themselves at Fort Pierre and resolved to stage a typical eastern celebration. Orations and a display of fireworks were awe inspiring to the natives who participated. "The Oglala Sioux feasted on the flesh of thirteen dogs—boiled in seven kettles much done."

The second Fourth of July celebration recorded in South Dakota was held across the river from Fort Pierre ten years later. It was staged by the John C. Fremont expedition.—Fort Pierre Times.

## Old Farm Island Residents Return

The four Marsh brothers, Roy and Guy, of Prior, Montana, and Fay and Glenn of Rapid City, sons of F. B. Marsh, who is well known by the pioneer residents of this vicinity, paid a visit to Farm Island yesterday for the first time since they left the island in 1907, having lived there for fourteen years. These boys were raised on the island and were looking for old landmarks of their farm home, and found that their old log house was still standing near where the Izaak Walton club-house is now. They recalled the time when the ten foot wall of water came upon the island in 1902 and necessitated their family to hang on tree limbs until the water receded, having suffered the loss of hundreds of chickens and other livestock, including several little coyotes.

They also stated that their education while living on the island was



limited to attending school only when the ice was thick enough to cross. Much praise was given the CCC boys for the fine appearance of the island, and the new buildings which had been recently constructed by CCC workmanship.—Daily Dakotan, July 8, 1937.

## Important Indian Collection

The Henry Lien family living 16 miles northeast of Pierre, have an extensive Indian collection which includes weapons, relics, tools, etc. This display is being constantly added to. One son, Bob, is fixing a power separator in order to gather such material wholesale. It is run with a Maytag motor and separates the articles sought from dirt and sand.

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Guy F. Barnes has one of the most extensive private Indian collections in the county. He has spent much time in searching through long abandoned habitats of the early Redmen.

The museum at the Memorial building across from the capitol, houses thousands of historical articles as well as a number of stuffed animals once common on these plains.

Persons interested in such collections should not fail to visit the Al Hildebrandt display which has been gathered at a considerable outlay of time and money. Al's interest in wild life is responsible for the many mounted specimen in this array. A. M. Jackley, rattle snake specialist, has more reptile specimen and data pertaining thereto than is to be found anywhere in the country. His services are much in demand in curtailing these poisonous serpents. Early in 1937 he was employed by the state to conduct a campaign of eradication against the creeping enemy of man and beast.

## Pioneers of Hughes County

Herman Anding came to Pierre from Winona, Minn., in 1896 and became engineer on the ferry boat, "Jim Leighton," which occupation he followed until his death in 1905. His wife and 5 daughters are still residents of the state. The daughters are, Mrs. Dana McNeil; Mrs. C. J. Loomer; Mrs. J. H. Hulse, all of Pierre. Mrs. Myron Wilson lives in Rapid City and Mrs. Paul Jones resides at Mobridge. The mother at present makes her home at Pierre. She is an active Eastern Star and a Methodist.

Mrs. McNeil conducts the radio station KGFX at Pierre. The station first came into existence in Feb., 1922 under the caption, 9 CLS, which makes this one of the first broadcasting plants in the northwest. The station maintains sufficient power to reach all parts of the state without difficulty.

\* \* \* \* \*

Wm. Whiteman, who resides a few miles below Pierre on the river, came to Blunt with his parents, Job Whiteman and wife, in 1883. His

father ran a dray and later filed a preemption right on land 9 miles north of Blunt. That land sold for \$52.59 per acre during the World War.

William was married in 1891 to Harriet E. Tallman in Pierre. He had located in Pierre in 1889. Both parents are buried in Logan Co., Ill. William and Harriet have 5 children living, William, Albert, Archie, Doris and Leone.

William Leischer, a pioneer homesteader near De Grey promised an article but never furnished same. He is one of the old timers down there and we regret that he failed to give us more information about his family. He lives with his son, Charles. Both have shown a great deal of determination in battling adverse elements in this western country.

Halvor Olson came to Hughes Co. in 1880 as a carpenter for the Northwestern Ry. In 1883 he settled in Byron Twp. and later moved to Blunt where the family resided 8 years. For a long number of years Ole and Pete have resided in the north end of De Grey district. Halvor died in 1922 and his wife passed away in 1927. The children are Ole, Pete, Annie Sorenson and Pethra Sorenson.

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Horner, a noted ex-scout of Indian escapades, Bismarck, marched with Gen. Custer on the fatal expedition which took place in Wyoming. He was taking orders to Gen. Terry when the "last charge" tragedy took place, and thus escaped death. Horner helped to bury Sitting Bull at Ft. Yates. His early training was in the Prussian army. He is very active for his age and is much in demand as a speaker. I plan to get him down here for the semi-centennial in 1939. He and Burke O'Brien will have some great visits.

—Tom Mathews.

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Mr. and Mrs. B. D. Dickey should be given considerable mention in a book of this type as they were early settlers here. Burt came in 1880; was married in 1882 and brought his bride here in 1883. They settled on land that is now a part of east Pierre. This couple have stood well the passing of the years.

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A. L. Hegglund came to Pierre in 1883 with his parents, M. L. Hegglung and wife. M. L. was a merchant tailor. A. L. was a rancher west of Canning for 10 years on the place now occupied by Will Schomer. He began as a carrier for the Pierre post office in 1905, and for many years made delivery with a horse and cart. For 30 years he engaged in the music and typewriter business but discontinued the music department in 1935. Albert was fortunate in getting into pay oil in the Hidden Dome field 46 miles northwest of Casper, Wyo.

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Frank Knowles and Fred Meyer reached Pierre on April 6, 1889, coming from Omaha. Frank was kept busy for several months laying out additions to the townsite of that time. He later became city engineer. Fred died some time ago in the Black Hills but Mr. Knowles still is active enough to follow his profession when called.

## The Dickens Club

This Club was formed at the home of Royal F. King on Dec. 30, 1890. It was organized for the study of Dickens but the minutes disclose that other authors were soon taken up. The Club met regularly on Monday evening at the homes of the members (except in the summer), until recently when the schedule was changed to monthly dinners. An annual outdoor picnic sponsored by John Sutherland and Zell Gutherie was always a pleasant affair. The best from garden and farm yard greeted the guests on such occasions.

Among the organizers of the Club and charter members were: Mr. and Mrs. Royal F. King, John Sutherland, the Eugene Steere family, J. L. Keyes and mother, Mrs. H. E. Keyes and Mrs. Ada Estabrook. Mrs. Estabrook was the first president or "leader."

M. E. Williams was the second leader, followed by Judge Kellam and John Sutherland. At the Dec. 16, 1895 session E. F. Swartz was elected president and continued as such until his death on August 7, 1937.

Mrs. J. K. Breeden, Vice President.

Elias Jacobsen, Secretary.

## Sts. Peter & Paul's Rectory, Pierre

Dear Mr. Hall:

In reply to your request for the names of the various priests who served in Pierre at this Church, I have the following list, which begins with the year indicated.

Rev. J. J. O'Neill, Sept., 1899 to July, 1904.

Rev. F. E. Stenzel, Aug., 1904 to Sept, 1913.

Rev. Geo. Kelly, Sept., 1913 to March, 1914.

Rev. J. J. Harrington, June, 1914 to June, 1917.

Rev. Louis F. Millard, July, 1917 to Aug., 1923.

Rev. Paul McGuire, Sept., 1923 to present date.

Rev. Father O'Neill had during his charge here the following assistant priests:

Rev. Ed M. Fierek, Oct., 1901 to May 1902.

Rev. W. R. Lehecka, Aug., 1902 to April, 1903.

Rev. M. J. McCarthy, July, 1903 to July, 1904.

—Rev. Paul McGuire.

## Pierre Banking History

<b>Bank of Pierre</b> Established 1880 Liquidated, 1884	} Private Bank. } Established 1880 by M. P. Kinkaid. } Small frame building NW. corner Coteau } St. and Dakota Ave.  } Sold to Robinson Brothers 1881. } Cyrus G. Robinson, Cashier
<b>Citizens Bank</b> Established Jan. 1, 1881 Liquidated about 1889	} Private Bank } President, S. S. Clough } Vice President, John Sutherland } Cashiers, J. L. Keyes } Eugene Steere } Capital \$50,000.00. } S. E. Corner Pierre Street and Dakota Ave.
<b>First National Bank</b> Established June, 1883 Closed March, 1933	} National Bank, Capital \$50,000.00 } Presidents, Fred T. Evans } C. C. Bennett } Ralph Eldridge } A. D. Hengel } W. D. Nelson } W. N. VanCamp  } Cashiers, W. G. Nixon } Eugene Steere } B. A. Cummins } B. J. Binford } Lyle L. Branch  } Located S. W. Cor. Pierre St. & Dakota Ave.
<b>Dakota Central Bank</b> Established about 1883 Liquidated about 1891	} Private Bank } Established by Fishback, Pratt and Wellman  } Occupied brick building in East Pierre } Central (now Dakota) Ave., opposite the } Wells House. (Several blocks east of } St. Mary's Hospital).
<b>Traders Bank</b> Established 1884 Liquidated 1890	} Private Bank. } President, H. H. McDonald } Cashier, W. W. McDonald } Corner Pierre Street and Pleasant Drive. } Later moved to East Pierre about two } blocks west of Wells House on Central } (now Dakota) Ave.

**Pierre Savings Bank**

Established 1887

Closed June, 1897

Savings Bank                      Capital \$50,000.00  
President, C. C. Bennett  
Vice President, Basil J. Templeton  
Cashier, Eugene Steere

Located in a frame building immediately  
east present Spargur Hardware store fac-  
ing on Dakota Ave. Later moved to same  
quarters with First National Bank.

**Pierre National Bank**

Established Sept. 2, 1889

National Bank                      Capital, \$50,000.00  
Presidents, P. F. McClure  
                 J. R. McKnight  
Vice Presidents, Louis Kehr  
                 L. B. Albright  
                 Chas. H. Burke  
                 F. M. Rood

Cashiers, E. H. Andrews  
                 Max J. Kehr  
                 J. R. McKnight  
                 H. P. Williams  
                 Walter H. Burke

First located 4 doors west of S. W. corner  
Pierre Street and Dak. Ave. In 1890 mov-  
ed to the building it still occupies.

**National Bank of Commerce**

Established April 10th, 1889

Closed Feb. 5, 1925

National Bank                      Capital \$75,000.00  
Presidents, B. J. Templeton  
                 J. C. Eager  
                 A. W. Ewert  
Vice Pres., J. J. Kleiner  
Cashiers, Adolph Ewert  
                 V. V. Ketchum  
                 H. C. Quackenbush

S.W. Corner Dakota Ave. and Coteau Streets  
Later S. E. Corner Pierre Street and Da-  
kota Ave.

**Pierre Banking & Trust Co.**

Established June 13, 1910

Liquidated and paid out in  
full between June 30, 1914  
and June 30, 1916

State Bank                      Capital \$75,000.00  
Presidents, R. S. Vessey  
                 E. H. Wood  
Cashier, John Hirning

**American Exchange Bank** } State Bank                      Capital \$50,000.00  
Established Aug., 1907  
Closed Dec. 15, 1930

President, C. L. Hyde  
Vice Presidents, N. Newbanks  
                                E. A. Platts  
                                A. Wheelon  
                                Byron S. Payne  
Cashiers, L. A. Munson  
                                J. E. Mallery

**First National Bank** } National Bank  
    **in Pierre**  
Established Aug. 25, 1934      Capital \$20,000.00 Common Stock  
  \$30,000.00 Preferred Stock

President, E. P. Theim  
Vice Pres., F. E. Hilts  
Cashier, L. L. Branch

## Pulling Together

These professional and business firms have cheerfully given support to the financial task of putting this HISTORY in print. They have done a worthy service. We believe the public will give them the patronage they deserve. They render full value for your dollar and stand for community building.

### Pierre National Bank

Established, September 2nd, 1889

Pres., J. R. McKnight

Vice Pres., Chas. H. Burke

Cashier, Walter H. Burke

Vice Pres., F. M. Rood

Asst. Cash., Curtis B. Mateer

Asst. Cash., Paul S. Dewell

#### The Oldest Bank in Pierre

*Almost 50 years of Continuous Service to the Public*

Capital \$50,000.00

Surplus \$41,700.00

Undivided Profits \$17,000.00

Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

\$5,000.00 Maximum Insurance for each Depositor

### IT'S THE START THAT COUNTS

Every youngster should be taught the elementary principles of finance....and the rudimentary principles of banking. Early training along these lines cultivates the desire to place these ideas in actual operation. The benefits are self-evident. Hundreds of present First National Bank in Pierre customers started early in life....they and the institution have gone forward.

#### FIRST NATIONAL BANK IN PIERRE

Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

\$5,000 Maximum Insurance for each depositor

**CHRONOLOGICAL**  
**History of Pierre's**  
**FIRST DRUG STORE**

**Established In April, 1880**  
(Black Hawk Medicine Co.)

**Passed to Ownership of**  
**FRED L. VILAS**.....**APRIL, 1909**

**Acquired**  
**CORNER DRUG STORE**.....**APRIL, 1928**

**Incorporated Each Separately**.....**APRIL, 1936**

**A Stockholders Corporation**

Fred L. Vilas

Clarence A. Herzog

Fred L. Vilas, Jr.

**Now in 57th year of Service to Pierre**  
**and Vicinity**

*"We Filled your Grandad's Prescription"*

**Uptown**

**Downtown**



## THE L & L DEPARTMENT STORE

PIERRE'S LEADING STORE

*We are not a Chain Store—Patronize us*

Abe Lindenbaum, Owner

We wish to become better acquainted with the people of Hughes County and surrounding counties. When in Pierre stop at the L & L. We handle only quality merchandise and our prices are the lowest. We have everything for men, women and children, each department is an exclusive store in itself. We have footwear for the entire family.

Full line of toilet goods and cosmetics for every purpose.

PARKWAY CLOTHES For Men

PORTIS-KEITH HATS For Men

STAR BRAND SHOES For Men

COOPER'S UNDERWEAR

BALL BAND RUBBER

FOOTWEAR

HANOVER PUBLIX SHIRTS

KINGSWEAR JACKETS

Men and Women

LADIES SUITS, COATS, HATS

and DRESSES

ADMIRATION HOSIERY

For Women

## ST. CHARLES HOTEL



St. Charles Hotel Co., Operators

R. E. Ray, Manager

## *Lower's Cafe*

A Good Place to Eat

Opposite Court House  
Pierre

## *Hollywood Shop*

Exclusive Line of Ready-to-Wear.

Everything in Lady's Apparel.

Modestly Priced

Down Town, Pierre

Rose Volz, Prop.

## Gillis Cleaners

The oldest established cleaning business in  
Pierre History

We specialize in fine ladies garments—Cleaners,  
pressing, tailoring, hatters. Suits made to  
Measure

Free Delivery Service  
Phone 2578

Opposite Court House, Pierre

# Graydon Studio

Pierre

*Photos that Please*

Studio over Tony Clothing Co.

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John Uveges, Prop.

Where Quality is Best and Workmanship is guaranteed. We have everything in the line of polishes and laces.

Cigarettes

Cigars

Tobacco All Kinds

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the place you buy  
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J. M. Kibler, M. D.

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Conducted by the Benedictine Sisters

Accredited Training School for Nurses

Approved by the American College of Surgeons

Pierre, South Dakota

*"The Sign of Quality Jewelry and Service"*

Diamonds  
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**Pierre, South Dakota**

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Bring or mail your watch repairing to us,  
We give you an estimate before Doing the Work  
Satisfaction Guaranteed Prices Right

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Refrigerators—Washers—Ironers—Oil Burners

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**Modern Electric Store**

Across From Grand Theatre

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Expert Radio Service

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We buy, sell and trade land and city property and do a general Real Estate business in central South Dakota. We look after property for non-resident owners on a small percentage basis. Also write insurance and bonds.

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The Home Concern  
Lumber, Building Material and Coal  
Pierre and Fort Pierre

*To serve you pleases us.*

*To be served pleases you.*

*Let us all be pleased*

# Capitol City Plumbing & Heating

*"One Stop Service"*

CRANE FIXTURES

Telephone 2834

Clarence Krimbill

Competent Workmen at Reasonable Prices

# Jaynes Market

*A Dependable Food Store Since 1895*

Quality Groceries, Fruits and Vegetables

Featuring Richilieu and Del Monte Brands

Quality Meats, Fish and Poultry, Featuring

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Four Prompt Deliveries Daily

8:45 and 10:30 a. m.      2:00 and 4:00 p. m.

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Cater to both Ladies and  
Gents.

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*Best in the Central West*

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Prescription Specialist

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Steam Heated Rooms  
Quiet

Soft Running Water in all Rooms  
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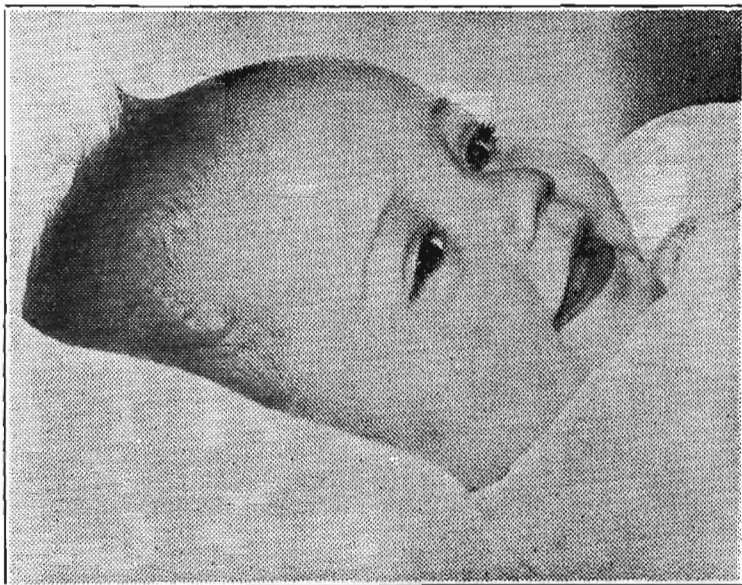
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*Steam Heated Rooms*

Mrs. Tillie Blake, Proprietress

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*Marilyn Yvonne Miller*  
 America's Most Beautiful Baby  
 Century of Progress & Sears, 1934

*Princess Face-Like-the-Sky*  
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*"Photographs Live Forever"*

**MILLER STUDIO**

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Pierre

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### **B Square Gas and Motor Oils**

Distributors of Quaker State Oils and Greases

Tires — Tubes — Batteries

Car Washing — Greasing — Vulcanizing

Al Schwem, Agent

Fritz Hosman, State Mgr.

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1881

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*Tony  
Clothing Co.*

For 57 years this store has been doing business in an honest way. What you get here must be right, or we make it right.

**Greenough  
Hardware**

**Quality Hardware**

**Household Merchandise**

Louie Greenough established hardware business in Pierre in 1884.

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**Dry Goods  
Ready-to-Wear Garments  
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*The home of Dame Fashion's latest fads and fancies*

**Lower Pierre Street**

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## MAHER MOTOR CO.

Dodge Brothers and Plymouth Motor Vehicles

Sales and Service

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We look to the future with the aim of serving you  
with quality merchandise at reasonable prices

Locally Owned

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Pierre, S. Dak.

## The Pierre Bootery

Quality Footwear for the Entire Family

Pierre, South Dakota

## William Robson

Plumbing & Heating & Tinning  
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We are glad to make estimates

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*"You've Tried the Rest, Now Try the Best"*

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**"CORONADO"**

**RADIOS — REFRIGERATORS**

**WASHERS — IRONERS — STOVES**

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**REGISTERED OPTOMETRIST**

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**27 YEARS IN SAME LOCATION**

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Quality grocers to the  
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Nationally advertised  
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### **QUALITY MEATS**

For complete selec-  
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meats economically pri-  
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Department Store

Ready-to-Wear, Millinery

Dry Goods, Shoes

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**Dr. S. A. Tjaden**  
**Chiropractor**

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Pierre, S. D.

Phones:

Residence 2842

Office 2637      Hengel Block

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**Company**

*"Walk up and Save"*

**Wholesale and Retail**  
**Fresh Fruit and Vegetables**  
**all year around**

Free Delivery

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**Quality**  
**Furniture**  
**For Less**

**Pierre Furniture**  
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COMPLIMENTS OF

**L. B. Albright  
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ESTABLISHED IN

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Our congratulations to Hughes County  
Schools on this worthy project

## Windsor Cafeteria

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Come and Enjoy a  
Good Home Cooked  
MEAL

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107 Capital Avenue  
Across from Pierre Postoffice

M. M. Morrissey  
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Physician and Surgeon

Hengel Block, Pierre, S. D.

## Historically Famous But As Modern As Today The Locke Hotel

I. M. Dotson

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*Funeral Director and Licensed Embalmers*

LADY ASSISTANT

Phone 2605 Office

2205 Residence

439 Pierre St., Pierre

The Dotson Funeral Home has been favored with the patronage of this vicinity for many years, the business having been established in 1898. Modern Funeral Home with Chapel, seating 100. Fully equipped show room and stock.



# Fischer Brothers

Fort Pierre, S. Dak.

**"EVERYTHING TO EAT AND WEAR"**

The Store of Quality and Service for Nearly 50 Years

**Established 1889**

## Peter Mintener Lumber Company

Lumber—Shingles—Sash—Doors—Cement  
Lime—Brick—Coal

**"The House of Service"**

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## Hilts Grocery

**STAPLE AND FANCY GROCERIES**

**FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLES IN SEASON**

**FREE DELIVERY**

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F. E. HILTS, Prop.

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Batteries—Tires—Alemite Service—Car Washing

**CONOCO GASOLINE & OIL**

**TWO STATIONS**

1 Block South of St. Charles Hotel

2 Blocks West of J. C. Penny Co., on Trails No. 14 & 83

Phone 2614 and 2727

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FURNITURE — STOVES

Antique Goods

Tools — Glassware — Dishes — Clothing

*"A Place of Many Bargains"*

## *The Library Binders*

*"As Cheap as Good Work Can Be Done"*

**Library and Magazine Binding Exclusively**

We gladly cooperate with the schools and librarians of the state in any way making for greater efficiency in our work, and we welcome any constructive criticism. Our customers are entitled to the best and we want them to have it.

**Paul C. Moorehead, Prop.**

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*"The Store of Quality Merchandise"*

Refrigerators — Electrical Contracting  
Radios  
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Pierre, S. Dak.

Become better acquainted with  
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### DAKOTA MAP COM- PANY at Pierre

Can supply your needs for  
County Maps and Plat Books  
Limited number of new and used  
school desks.



## The Modern Cleaners

**TAILORS — HATTERS — RUG CLEANERS**

**A Class of Service that Merits Particular Patronage**

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Located In St. Charles Hotel

## Jassmann & Sons, Inc.

424 Fort St., (Half Block South of Locke Hotel)

**HUDSON — TERRAPLANE AUTOMOBILES**

1st Class Repair Service

Washing and Greasing Jobs Promptly Done

Garage Telephone 2523

Dealer In Hides, Furs and Wool

## Pierre Hide and Metal Company

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PIERRE, SOUTH DAKOTA

14 Years Ago I Established the

## MASON PAINT & BODY SHOP

In Pierre

I give employment to 7 men; have built an apartment and a number of residences.

As a taxpayer and employer I ask your Patronage for

## COMPLETE BODY BUILDING

Fenders, Axles and Frames Straightened

Authorized Duco & Wrecker Service

Day or Night

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So. Dak.

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## PRINTERS — PUBLISHERS

Sioux Falls, South Dakota

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# *The Bobette Beauty Shoppe*

## All Lines of Beauty Work

St. Charles Barber Shop in Connection

For Style & Service that Pleases

Come in or Phone 2232

## CAPITAL MELODY SHOP

Upper Pierre Street

### SPECIALIZES IN

Band and Orchestra Instruments (New and Used)

Accessories—Reeds—Strings—Phonograph Needles

Popular & Classical Sheet Music NEW & USED PIANOS

Also Singer Sewing Machines & Vacuum Cleaners

Used Machines of All Makes

Accessories and Expert Repair Work

# Parkview Hotel

QUIET — CLEAN — COMFORTABLE

Newly Built and Furnished

210 Pleasant Drive

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JENNIE WELCH, Prop.

## The EAST PIERRE STORE

has been serving customers satisfactorily since it was opened in 1910 by Frank Craig. We welcome the present generation as customers as well as the pioneers who have fixed the habit of trading with us.

A General Line of Groceries for your Table

Fresh and Cured Meats

We Invite New Customers at 125 So. Van Buren

Phone 2847

Mrs. A. W. Harvey, Prop.

*We commend the Publication of this Book*

For Insurance of any Kind

## EARL F. HALL

Fire — Tornado — Automobile — Life

Accident — Health

Surety and Fidelity Bonds

114 Highland Ave.

Pierre, S. D.

Night

Our Motto

Day

"Here To Serve"

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808 West Pleasant Drive

Phone 2691

Pierre

S. Dak.

## Spargur-Hensen

*Pierre's Fashion Center*

For

Women's and Children's

READY-TO-WEAR

Upper Pierre Street

Pierre



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Lithe young lines  
that fairly breathe  
of spring.

**\$29.75**

Other Rothmoor Coats  
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\*Trade Mark Registered  
U. S. Pat. Office

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New Location  
Pierre, S. Dak.

# **T**IMES PRINTING COMPANY

**Printers - Binders - Publishers**

We congratulate those responsible for the production of the HUGHES COUNTY HISTORY. It is something that the pioneers and descendents of that locality can well be proud of.

\* \* \*

**IT IS OUR PURPOSE TO SERVE PEOPLE  
ON BOTH SIDES OF THE MISSOURI**

Phone 52

Fort Pierre



## PAINTING & INTERIOR DECORATING

Quality Workmanship plus Prompt Service

JOHN HAUSMAN, JR.

Note: Grandfather Hank Hausman came here in the spring of 1880. He met Gen. Custer and talked with him prior to the catastrophe of the Little Big Horn.

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*Your Florist For More Than Thirty Years*

And now better than ever prepared to take care of your need in flowers and flowering plants.

We are Florist Telegraph Delivery Members and can relay your orders for flowers to your distant friends.

Vegetable Plants In Season

Greenhouses near foot of Pierre Street

*Visitors Welcome*

**BARNEY FLORISTS, Phone 2662**

# *The Friendly Prairies*



In Commemoration of  
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- \* An Active Old Settlers' Association
- \* Memorialization of Historic Spots Yet Unmarked
- \* Keep Alive the Memories and Friendships of Yesteryear
- \* Correct the Mistakes that Deplete Nature's Bounty